TABLE OF CONTENTS

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

INVESTIGATIVE NARRATIVE

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU
INVESTIGATIVE NARRATIVE
IV 2077453

Subject:	**ARA MELKONIANS, DEPUTY, [redacted]** **West Hollywood Station** **Field Operations Region I**
Date:	**1st Incident-On or about August 9, 2002;** **2nd Incident-On or about September 12, 2002;** **3rd Incident-On or about November 14, 2002;** **4th Incident-On or about between October & December, 2002**
Location:	**West Hollywood Station Area and various other areas**
Investigator:	**Sergeant William Hines**

Case Synopsis:

This case pertains to several allegations of policy violations by Deputy Ara Melkonians, during four different incidents, while working in the capacity of a deputy sheriff and while on and off duty.

These allegations were initiated after an inquiry was conducted at West Hollywood Station by Lieutenants Kathi Pattullo and Buddy Goldman.

Deputy Melkonians was relieved of standard duty on December 11, 2002, by Lieutenant Goldman.

On December 18, 2002, I was assigned this investigation and over the next several days, reviewed all documents related to the case. I also met with Internal Affairs Bureau Captain Dennis Burns to discuss the case and collect additional information. On December 19, 2002, I spoke with Lieutenant Buddy Goldman regarding this case and additional information, and on January 27, 2003, I spoke with Lieutenant Kathi Pattullo regarding additional documentation regarding this case.

Interviews were conducted from February 10th through February 24th with the various witnesses in this case and Deputy Melkonians was interviewed on April 15 and16, 2003. Additional witnesses were interviewed between April 16 and June 24, 2003. Melkonians was interviewed a third time on June 25, 2003.

The following Investigative Narrative is divided into the four incidents involving the alleged policy violations and is based on information obtained from reports, memoranda, and interviews of the involved employee, witnesses and complainant. Subject Melkonians' and Complainant [redacted] individual statements are contained in the Subject and Complainant Statement sections of this case package.

Incident #1

It is alleged in this incident that Deputy Melkonians responded to a domestic violence call. Although the ex-boyfriend/suspect was gone prior to his arrival, Deputy Melkonians was informed that the suspect had climbed to a second floor balcony and attempted to remove the sliding glass door. The informant was frightened of the ex-boyfriend and had called 911. While Deputy Melkonians was still at the location, the ex-boyfriend/suspect returned to the parking lot below the balcony. Deputy Melkonians walked to the balcony and pointed his M-26 taser (which looks similar to a pistol) at the ex-boyfriend and told him to leave the area. Deputy Melkonians did not write any report documenting the attempted burglary, nor the Non-Criminal Domestic Violence incident. Policy violations include *3-01/030.05-General Behavior, 3-01/030.15-Conduct Toward Others, 3-01/050.10-Performance to Standards, 3-01/030.10-Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders, 5-09/030.00-Domestic Violence.* **Refer to Exhibit A-Memorandum written by Sergeant Jacobs**

Narrative
On August 9, 2002, Deputy Melkonians was working Unit 97E, with a reserve partner, Deputy Breijo. **Refer to Exhibit B-West Hollywood Station In-Service for August 9, 2002 "B" Shift**

They responded to a call of 415 BG (boyfriend/girlfriend) at [redacted], [redacted]. The reporting party was [redacted] The call was cleared, "Cont [redacted] and her ex boyfriend [redacted] MW/A re: [redacted] Inf non des of crime report at this time/ extra patrol needed." **Refer to Exhibit C-Deputy Daily Worksheet for 08-09-02**

Witness [redacted] was interviewed on February 11, 2003, at 1755 hours by Internal Affairs Bureau investigators Sergeants William Hines and Elier Morejon. The interview was conducted at the home of Ms. [redacted]

Ms. [redacted] related that she recalled the incident that occurred on August 9, 2002. On that date, she had returned home sometime between midnight and one in the morning. As she walked in the door of her condo, she saw her ex-boyfriend, [redacted] on her second story balcony, attempting to open the sliding glass door. She saw that the sliding glass door was off of its track. She immediately told [redacted] to leave and he told her that he wanted to talk to her. [redacted] yelled, "You were on a fucking date!" Ms. [redacted] said she immediately went to her phone and called 911.

> **IAB Note:** In reviewing the call made by Ms. [redacted] she did not call 911. She called on the regular business line. **Refer to Exhibit D-Audio tape of call**

Ms. [redacted] said that the reason she called 911 was because she felt that [redacted] might actually get inside the condo and "hurt me." She was afraid of [redacted]. As she was calling, he jumped off the balcony and left.

The deputies arrived a short time later and she explained to them what had happened.

> **IAB Note:** The "deputies" that arrived were Deputy Melkonians and Reserve Deputy [redacted]. Deputy Melkonians is the only Subject in this case.

The deputies took the information then asked her if she wanted to "prosecute" and file a report; however, she told them that she did not want to at that time. She said that she was "feeling guilty" that she broke up with her ex-boyfriend and didn't want him "to be in trouble." One of the deputies "helped" her "block" her phone because [redacted] was "annoying" her with phone calls.

Ms. [redacted] said that the deputies continued to encourage her to make a report. Ms. [redacted] related that one of the deputies told her about an incident ten years ago, when the same thing happened to a girl who didn't make a report, and "she ended up getting killed by her ex-boyfriend a week later." The deputy went on to say, " I think you should file a report, this is not going to get any better." However, Ms. [redacted] said she kept telling the officers that she didn't want to file a report.

> **IAB Note:** Several times during her interview, Ms. [redacted] related an inordinate number of times, that the deputies told her that she should make a report, but she did not want to make a report. Finally at one point, I told her that we understood that the deputies felt that she should have made a report.

The deputies were talking to Ms. [redacted] for about thirty minutes when [redacted] came back to the condo. Both deputies walked out on the balcony and [redacted] was in the parking lot below the balcony. Both deputies pointed their flashlights and what she thought were their "stun guns" at [redacted].

> **IAB Note:** Later in the interview, Ms. [redacted] said she could not remember if only one deputy or both deputies pointed a stun gun, or if one pointed a flashlight and one pointed a stun gun. During her conversation with Sergeant Jacobs on September 12, 2002, Ms. [redacted] said that Melkonians pointed his gun at [redacted]. On September 13, 2002, in a follow-up conversation, Ms. [redacted] said that Melkonians pointed his stun gun and pointed the "stun dot" at [redacted]. **Refer to Exhibit A-Memorandum written by Sergeant Jacobs**

According to Ms. [redacted] Deputy Melkonians told [redacted] that "it was a very bad decision on his part that he came back and that he should never come back here again." [redacted] told the deputies that he wanted to hear Ms. [redacted] tell him, so she went out on the balcony and said, [redacted], I don't want you coming around here ever again!" Then one of the deputies told [redacted], "She'll call

you. You do not contact her. She'll call you if she wants to speak with you." Ms. [redacted] said that [redacted] was standing with his hands up in the air and said, "Okay." He then walked away. The deputies again asked her if she wanted to make a report and if she felt safe. She said, "Well, I think I feel safe now because you guys scared him away." The deputies then left.

> **IAB Note:** According to Deputy Melkonians' DDWS, he and Reserve Deputy [redacted] were at the location from 0137 hours to 0251 hours (one hour and fourteen minutes). **Refer to Exhibit C-Deputy Daily Worksheet for 08-09-02**

When asked if she remembered the names of the deputies, Ms. [redacted] said that one of the deputies was named "Melkonian" and people called him "Mel." She could not recall the name of the other deputy, however, she described him as "a really nice guy." She said that she had not seen either deputy before the day of the incident.

Ms. [redacted] said that during the "thirty minutes" prior to [redacted] returning, the deputies were trying to convince her to file a report and she was asking the deputies questions about her options. She also asked the deputies about "body guards" because she said she "knew this was not going to go away, but [she] didn't want to necessarily get [her] ex in trouble with the law."

Ms. [redacted] told investigators that [redacted] had "hit" her "a couple of times" in the past. When asked if she was "worried" when she saw [redacted] on the balcony, Ms. [redacted] said, "Yeah."

> **IAB Note:** [redacted] **(Exhibit E)**

When asked if the deputies "stayed and consoled her," Ms. [redacted] said, "Oh yeah, consoled me, but tried to convince me to file a report." She said the deputies stayed for about an hour. She said she definitely felt safer with the deputies there, in fact she "didn't want them to leave." She worried that [redacted] might possibly return. When asked, she agreed that it was a very frightening experience to come home and find an ex-boyfriend on the balcony trying to get in.

Ms. [redacted] related that although she was not sure, she believed she told the deputies about her past relationship with [redacted] She added she couldn't see how she wouldn't have told them. When asked if the deputies knew she was frightened of [redacted], she replied, "Yeah, probably. But maybe...I was seeming like I wasn't at the time to them, because I was begging them not to file a report."

When asked if she has seen either of the deputies since the August 9th incident, she said she has seen "Mel" one time. She explained that "Mel" arrested [redacted] after the second incident.

IAB Note: This second incident Ms. [redacted] referred to was on September 12, 2002, when [redacted] returned to her home and assaulted her. On that day, Deputy Melkonians arrested [redacted] **Refer to Exhibit A-Memorandum by Sergeant Jacobs and Exhibit E-Unit 93's DDWS for 09-12-02 and Crime report/Booking package written by Deputy Melkonians and Suspect [redacted] Criminal History**

Ms. [redacted] then said that she actually did not see "Mel," but he left her a message after [redacted] got out of jail. She added that about three weeks after [redacted] arrest, she was afraid to come home one night because [redacted] was calling her "non-stop crazy" while she was on a date, so she called Melkonians to escort her home. She said that "Mel" then followed her home. She was afraid that [redacted] was going to follow her home to see whom she was dating that night. Ms. [redacted] said the reason she called "Mel" was because "Mel" had told her that "if it's a night I'm working, or my partner is working, I'll make sure you get home safely."

Regarding how she called Melkonians, Ms. [redacted] said she called the Station and asked them to call him on his cell phone. She gave the Station her cell phone number and he then called her cell phone and left a message and she called him back.

Ms. [redacted] said she spoke with "Mel" on the phone another time when [redacted] got out of jail. She said that she has not spoken to "Mel" recently. She felt that the last time she talked with him was September.

When asked if she thought it was clear to the deputies that she was afraid of [redacted] on the night that she called 911, Ms. [redacted] answered, "Yes."

Ms. [redacted] was asked if [redacted] had climbed on her balcony in the past and she related that he had. She was then asked why she did not call 911 during these times and she explained that on the occasions in the past, she was home. On the August 9th incident, she was caught off guard because she came home and it surprised her because he was screaming. It scared her this time and the previous times, but on the previous times he left right away.

When asked if she made a comment, "Mel's going to kill him!" during the arrest of [redacted] on September 12, 2002, Ms. [redacted] said, "Yes." She explained that she said that because during the August 9th incident when Melkonians was at her house, he was upset by the situation of [redacted] stalking and harassing her and the fact that [redacted] returned to the condo. She said she felt that Melkonians was "pissed" and "upset" that [redacted] came back.

IAB Note: The comment, "Mel's going to kill him!" was referenced by Sergeant Marjory Jacobs in her memorandum regarding the arrest of [redacted] by Deputy Melkonians. **Refer to Exhibit A-Memorandum written by Sergeant Jacobs**

On April 15 and 16, 2003, **Deputy Ara Melkonians** was interviewed at Internal Affairs Bureau by Sergeants William Hines and Elier Morejon.

> **IAB Note:** Deputy Melkonians had to leave before the conclusion of the interview on April 15, due to an emergency involving his [redacted]. The interview resumed the next morning, April 16, 2003.

Melkonians was represented by his attorney, Helen Schwab, of Green and Shinee. **Refer to Subject Interview for a complete transcription of Deputy Melkonians' interview**

Melkonians' interview was tape recorded and summarized as it relates to this portion of the investigation as follows:

Melkonians related that he recalled the incident on August 9, 2002. He remembered that he had a Reserve Deputy as a partner, however, he could not recall his name. He recalled talking to [redacted] and she told him that she was having an ongoing problem with [redacted], [redacted]. He remembered talking to her "for a while" and he gave her a number of alternatives as to what she could do including Emergency Protective Orders, Restraining Orders and filing a report. He recalled that he was at Ms. [redacted] residence about an hour and she mentioned something about the possibility of hiring body guards. At some point while they were talking, [redacted] returned. He was "drunk and a little bit belligerent" and "acting a little bit bizarre." Melkonians was upstairs and [redacted] was downstairs and didn't want to leave. Melkonians said he pointed his M-26 taser at [redacted] and told him, "Hey you need to get going!" The taser has a laser sight (infrared dot) which Melkonians said he pointed at [redacted] chest. Melkonians said he did this because he didn't know if [redacted] was going to "advance" onto the balcony. Melkonians added that he was trained to use the red dot "to get a message across, you know what I mean?-Back off!" Melkonians estimated the distance between him and [redacted] to be about twelve to fifteen feet. [redacted] eventually left after Ms. [redacted] told him she didn't want to see him. Melkonians could not remember how [redacted] left. Melkonians said that Ms. [redacted] was adamant about not filing a report.

Melkonians said he didn't recall that [redacted] had attempted to open the second story balcony sliding glass door. He did recall there was "something wrong with the window," however, he could not remember if it was off the track or broken. He also remembered something about the balcony and the possibility that [redacted] had attempted to gain entry there in the past.

> **IAB Note**: Melkonians' DDWS for that date indicates on the clearance of Tag 41, P459 (Possible Burglary). Later in the interview, Melkonians was asked why he did not consider writing an Attempt Burglary Report. He related that he did not since he felt that Ms. [redacted] was inconsistent with her statements and he questioned her "veracity." Melkonians was asked why he did not write a Suspicious Circumstances Report in this situation. He responded, "You know what Sarge, I, outside of training,

I can honestly tell you that I don't recall writing a 'Supp. Circs.' report. Either it's just there or it's not. In my way of doing things, either something is there and you have the elements or, or... I don't waste time doing something that could be possi... Anything could be possible."

Additional IAB Note: This entry indicates that the ex-boyfriend's name was [redacted]. On the date of the incident, [redacted] told Melkonians that his last name was [redacted], heir to the [redacted]. His correct name is [redacted].

Melkonians recalled helping Ms. [redacted] block her phone because she was getting annoying phone calls from [redacted]. Melkonians recalled telling Ms. [redacted] of an incident that occurred about ten years ago where a girl did not make a report and she was then killed by her ex-boyfriend.

Melkonians was asked if he was familiar with the Policy and Procedures Manual regarding the reporting procedures for Domestic Violence. He answered, "I don't know how to quite answer that."

Melkonians was then told he was not expected to have it memorized, but asked if he had an idea what the reporting procedures are in a situation of domestic violence. He said, "I have a working knowledge, an idea, sure." He was then told, "In your own words, tell [us] what is required." Melkonians stated, "Well, I'd rather just take a look at the policy, then tell you if I recognize it or not..." After more probing, Melkonians gave a cursory explanation of what he felt the policy was and the requirements of the policy as it related to situations where there were injuries. He was then asked what was required if there were no injuries and he said, "I don't know. You tell me!" Melkonians then said, "I know what you guys are getting at and I'll tell you the bottom line, I did not take a Non-Criminal Domestic Violence Report. And I think what you're essentially saying, both of you, is that I should have." He went on to explain that he did not write that report and said he could "attribute it to several things." He then said, "I would just rather say I didn't do it. I didn't take a Non-Criminal Domestic Violence Report." He added that at the time he didn't feel that a report needed to be taken, however, now "in hindsight" a report should have "possibly" been taken "just to document the scenario, just to cover the Department's perspectives."

IAB Note: At this point in the interview, the Department's policy regarding Domestic Violence was discussed and Melkonians acknowledged that he did not actually know the policy. He then said, "To be quite frank with you, if I would have known that, I would have taken that."

This portion of the interview was concluded when Melkonians said, "If the same set of circumstances were repeated today, I would take one just to cover myself, knowing the Department's posture."

Regarding any contact with [redacted] since the arrest of [redacted], Melkonians said he

did recall following her home one night, at her request, when she was out on a date and was afraid to come home. He did this while on duty. He admitted that he had given his cell phone number to [redacted] and told her that if she ever needed him, to call. When asked why he gave her his number, Melkonians said, "I don't know." He was then asked if he gave his number to every victim he contacts and he said, "No, of course not." He followed up by saying that he thought Ms. [redacted] gave him her number, so he gave her his in return.

Melkonians was asked if he thought, that during the incident on August 9th, that he gave Ms. [redacted] the impression that he was "upset" or "pissed off" about [redacted] "stalking and harassing her."

> **IAB Note:** This question was asked in reference to the statement made by Ms. [redacted], "Mel's going to kill him!"

Melkonians said that that was a difficult question to answer. He then said that he did not remember specifically using the words "upset" or "pissed off." Melkonians was then asked if he knew why, on September 12th, Ms. [redacted] made the following comment to Sergeant Jacobs, when Ms. [redacted] was told that Melkonians had detained [redacted] "Mel's going to kill him!" Melkonians replied, "She's an actress. Besides that I don't why she said that." He did not have any idea why Ms. [redacted] made that comment.

Melkonians was asked if he considered Ms. [redacted] a friend and he said, "She's a nice person that I met while working, that's all. That's all she was to me. Nothing more. Nothing more at all. Very friendly."

> **IAB Note:** This question was in reference to the memo written by Sergeant Jacobs where on page 3, she wrote: "Deputy Melkonians proceeded to tell me that Victim [redacted] was a *personal friend* of his, she frequents his neighborhood and that he cared for her." **Refer to Exhibit A** Melkonians denied ever making that statement and said that was a "summarization of someone's mind set or perspective."

Melkonians said that he did not know or meet Ms. [redacted] prior to the call on August 9, 2002. Also, when asked, Melkonians denied ever attempting to coach Ms. [redacted] as what to tell Internal Affairs Bureau investigators during this investigation.

> **IAB Note:** Due to the fact that Deputy Melkonians pointed his M-26 taser's laser sight at the suspect, I interviewed Sergeant Richard Fortelny, Field Operations Training Unit at Stars Center on May 29, 2003. The interview was tape recorded and summarized as it related to this case as follows:

Sergeant Richard Fortelny oversees all of the training and instructors at the Field Operations Training Unit. The scenario of the incident was briefed to Sergeant Fortelny. He related that his records indicate that Deputy Ara Melkonians was trained on the M-26 taser at Crescenta Valley

Station on [redacted] In reference to the Situational Use of Force Options chart, Sergeant Fortelny said that the use of the M-26 taser falls under the category of "Assaultive/High Risk." Sergeant Fortelny was specifically asked, "In your opinion would you ever use a taser to intimidate somebody that isn't 'assaultive or high risk?'" Sergeant Fortelny answered, "Absolutely not. No you would not do that." He added that to do that, one would not fall within the guidelines of the Force Chart.

Sergeant Fortelny was briefed more specifically that in this particular incident, the deputy was standing on a second floor balcony and the suspect was below the balcony, standing in an open parking lot. According to Deputy Melkonians, the suspect was refusing to leave and was about twelve to fifteen feet away from him on the lower parking lot. Additionally, according to Melkonians, the suspect was showing signs of being "drunk" and acting "bizarre." Sergeant Fortelny said the recommended effective range of the M-26 taser is seven to twelve feet. The maximum range of the taser is twenty-one feet. If the suspect was further than twenty-one feet away from the deputy, the taser would not be effective.

> **IAB Note:** On June 9, 2003, Sergeant Morejon and I drove [redacted] and measured the distance from Ms. [redacted] balcony and where she said [redacted] was standing on the night of the incident. The distance was approximately forty two feet. **Refer to Exhibit F-Photographs of distance between [redacted] balcony and parking lot**
>
> Also note that the only other way into the complex was to walk around the block, to the front door which was also protected by a gate code.

Sergeant Fortelny said that pointing the laser sight to intimidate someone is not taught in any of the lesson plans. Pointing a laser sight at a suspect who is only "resistive" is not taught in the lesson plan. **Refer to Miscellaneous Documents for information on the M-26 Taser training and the Situational Use of Force Options chart**

On June 9, 2003, **Reserve Deputy** [redacted] was interviewed at the Internal Affairs Bureau by Sergeants William Hines and Elier Morejon. The interview was tape recorded and summarized as it relates to this case as follows:

Deputy [redacted] is currently a Reserve Deputy at West Hollywood Station and has been for the past twenty-three years. [redacted]

Deputy [redacted] recalled working with Deputy Melkonians on August 9, 2002. He also recalled going to the call of a 415B/G at [redacted] They contacted Ms. [redacted] and determined the ex-boyfriend, [redacted], had already left the location. Ms. [redacted] said that she did not want any legal action taken against [redacted]. She was in fear, however, and wanted someone there until she was able to leave. She was planning on leaving the following day. Melkonians and [redacted]

were on the second floor balcony looking at the sliding glass door which was off its track. They were also talking to Ms. [redacted] when [redacted] returned to the lower parking lot, just below the balcony. [redacted] returned on foot. As [redacted] walked toward the balcony, Melkonians identified himself and asked [redacted] to stop. It appeared that [redacted] could have been planning to climb the balcony again had he not seen the deputies on the balcony. [redacted] started to turn and "momentarily hesitated." Deputy Breijo said they thought Pilgrim might "run off." Deputy Breijo said, "We were concerned about him continuing to return, until we had a chance to speak with him." At that point, Deputy Melkonians activated the laser sight on his M-26 taser and pointed the laser at the center of [redacted]'s chest. This caused [redacted] to stop. Melkonians did not threaten to shoot [redacted] with the taser. Deputy [redacted] felt that Melkonians used the laser to "bluff" [redacted] into stopping and it worked. Deputy [redacted] estimated that the distance between [redacted] and Melkonians on the balcony was between twenty and thirty feet.

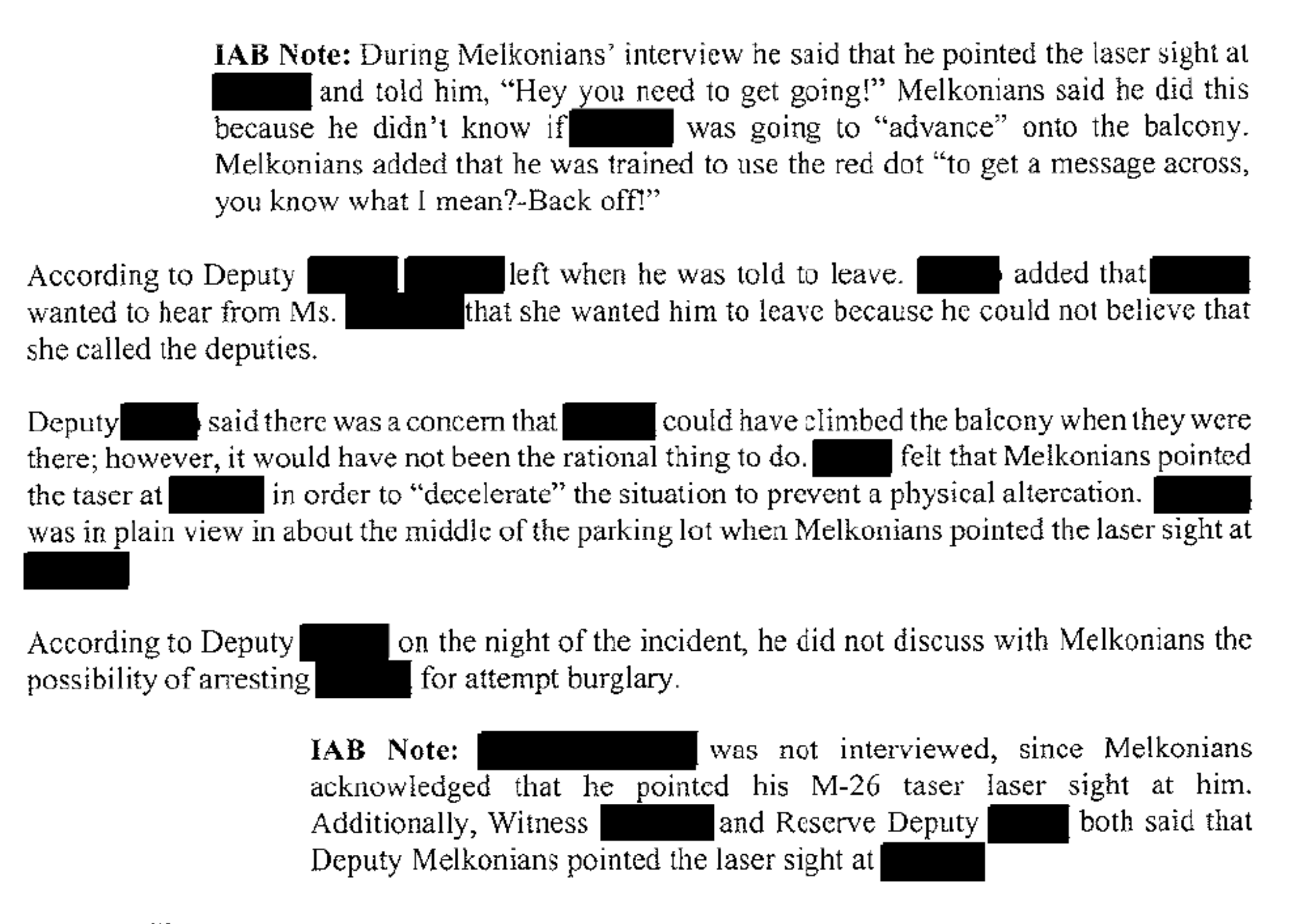
> **IAB Note:** As indicated earlier, the distance between [redacted] and Melkonians measured by investigators was about forty two feet. During his interview, Melkonians estimated the distance between him and [redacted] at about twelve to fifteen feet.

Melkonians then had a "discussion" with [redacted] was upset that Ms. [redacted] called the "cops" on him. Melkonians then asked [redacted] to leave and not bother Ms. [redacted] any longer. [redacted] then turned and walked out of the parking lot and out of sight. Melkonians and Breijo spent approximately ten more minutes talking to Ms. [redacted] She was adamant about not taking a report. They then left the location. They drove around the area to insure that [redacted] had left.

Deputy [redacted] did not observe any signs of intoxication from [redacted] other than the fact that [redacted] was "argumentative" and didn't seem to listen or follow directions. Deputy [redacted] did not discount the fact that [redacted] could have been under the influence of something. [redacted] agreed that "bizarre" would be a word to describe [redacted] He further described [redacted] as "emotional."

In reference to the Situational Use of Force Options chart, Deputy [redacted] said that [redacted] was not initially cooperative. Deputy [redacted] described [redacted] actions as "resistive" in that he resisted complying with the commands and orders. Deputy [redacted] said that Melkonians did not initially point the laser sight at [redacted] Melkonians ordered [redacted] to stop and when it looked as if [redacted] might leave, Melkonians pointed the taser/laser sight at [redacted] in an effort to prevent him from leaving. Deputy [redacted] said that [redacted] definitely did not fall within the "Assaultive/High risk" category on the Force chart.

Deputy [redacted] did not recall if Melkonians also pointed the M-26 taser laser sight at [redacted] when he was told to leave. Deputy [redacted] only recalled the original pointing of the laser to stop [redacted] from leaving.



IAB Note: During Melkonians' interview he said that he pointed the laser sight at [redacted] and told him, "Hey you need to get going!" Melkonians said he did this because he didn't know if [redacted] was going to "advance" onto the balcony. Melkonians added that he was trained to use the red dot "to get a message across, you know what I mean?-Back off!"

According to Deputy [redacted] [redacted] left when he was told to leave. [redacted] added that [redacted] wanted to hear from Ms. [redacted] that she wanted him to leave because he could not believe that she called the deputies.

Deputy [redacted] said there was a concern that [redacted] could have climbed the balcony when they were there; however, it would have not been the rational thing to do. [redacted] felt that Melkonians pointed the taser at [redacted] in order to "decelerate" the situation to prevent a physical altercation. [redacted] was in plain view in about the middle of the parking lot when Melkonians pointed the laser sight at [redacted]

According to Deputy [redacted] on the night of the incident, he did not discuss with Melkonians the possibility of arresting [redacted] for attempt burglary.

IAB Note: [redacted] was not interviewed, since Melkonians acknowledged that he pointed his M-26 taser laser sight at him. Additionally, Witness [redacted] and Reserve Deputy [redacted] both said that Deputy Melkonians pointed the laser sight at [redacted]

Incident #2

It is alleged in this incident that Deputy Melkonians had a female passenger in his patrol car while on duty and without the prior approval of the Watch Commander and without processing the required "Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver and Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement" Form. After being requested to immediately respond to the station, Deputy Melkonians arrived about three hours later and told his supervisor that she was being "petty" about requiring the prior approval. Policy violations include *3-01/030.05-General Behavior, 3-01/030.15-Conduct Toward Others, 3-01/050.10-Performance to Standards, and 3-01/030.10-Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (Station Order #28).* **Refer to Exhibit G- Memorandum by Lieutenant Pattullo**

Narrative

On September 12, 2002, Deputy Melkonians, while on duty, was seen with a female passenger in his patrol unit, apparently on a ride-along.

IAB Note: This information was given to Lieutenant Pattullo by an anonymous deputy. She could not recall the name of the deputy. **Refer to Exhibit G- Memorandum by Lieutenant Pattullo**

According to Lieutenant Pattullo's memo, upon hearing about the ride-along, she walked to the Watch Sergeant's office and asked Sergeant Velazquez if Deputy Melkonians had authorization for a ride-along. Sergeant Velazquez advised Lieutenant Pattullo that she had no knowledge of Deputy Melkonians having a ride-along.

Sergeant Margarita Velazquez was interviewed on February 24, 2003. She recalled the incident and said that she was assigned as the Watch Sergeant at West Hollywood Station. According to Sergeant Velazquez, sometime between 2100 hours and 2200 hours on the date of the incident, Lieutenant Pattullo came into the Watch Sergeant's office, and asked her if she knew that Deputy Melkonians had a ride-along. Sergeant Velazquez told Pattullo that she did not. Sergeant Velazquez then checked through her in-tray for a ride-along waiver possibly already submitted. She did not find one. As Sergeant Velazquez was about to send Deputy Melkonians an MDT message requesting a waiver for his ride-along, she received an MDT message from Melkonians requesting permission for a ride-along, and she gave her approval. She additionally advised him to "10-19 ASAP" to submit the waiver. Deputy Melkonians did not immediately return to the Station. Sergeant Velazquez recalled that it took Melkonians about two hours to return to the Station. During that time, Sergeant Velazquez heard over the radio that Deputy Melkonians was involved in a felony traffic stop on a 273.5 suspect. Upon hearing this, she realized that he would be extended on his return time. She knew he would have to come in to book the suspect, so she would ask him then about the ride-along waiver.

> **IAB Note:** This ride-along incident occurred on the same night that Deputy Melkonians arrested [redacted] as noted in the previous incident. According to the Booking Slip, the time of the arrest was 0001 hours and the time of booking was 0005 hours.

Deputy Melkonians did eventually come to the Station around midnight to book his suspect and that was when he provided the waiver to Sergeant Velazquez. She looked at the form and noticed it did not have "next of kin" information on it. When she asked for a name of the "next of kin," Melkonians said, "Don't worry she's going to leave anyway." The ride-along then left the Station. **Refer to Exhibit H-Ride-Along Waiver**

Sergeant Velazquez discussed the Ride-Along policy with Deputy Melkonians. She told Deputy Melkonians that she was not aware that he had a ride-along and it was not on the "Admin Calender" in the computer. She further discussed with him that it was "very important" for liability risk that he have a signed waiver when he has a ride-along. According to Sergeant Velazquez, Melkonians' attitude was that she was "making a big deal out of nothing." She told him, "Well, whether it's a big deal or not, it's policy and that's what we need to abide by." She also recalled that Melkonians replied something to the effect, "I think this is petty Sarge. I can't believe we're discussing this."

Sergeant Velazquez said that she did not have any knowledge that Deputy Melkonians had a ride-along that night, prior to Lieutenant Pattullo telling her. Additionally, Melkonians did not come to

the Station and follow the proper screening procedures prior to having the ride-along in his car.

Sergeant Velazquez wrote a memo regarding this incident. **Refer to Exhibit I-Memo written by Sergeant Velazquez**

> **IAB Note:** Regarding her memo, Sergeant Velazquez wrote "2100 hours [she] received an MDT message..." She could not recall if the time was 2100 hours or closer to 2200 hours. A review of the MDT print out indicates the time was 2124 hours. Additionally, it was Sergeant Velazquez's understanding that when Melkonians sent her the MDT message, he did not already have the ride-along in his patrol car. She thought he would come to the Station to pick up the ride-along. **Refer to Exhibit J-MDT Printouts**

> **Additional IAB Note:** Deputy Melkonians' DDWS for September 12, 2002, does not indicate that he had a Ride-Along in his patrol car. **Refer to Exhibit K-Melkonians' DDWS for 09-12-02**

It was Sergeant Velazquez's opinion that Deputy Melkonians did not follow the procedures listed in "Station Order 28-Ride Along Program." **Refer to Miscellaneous Documents/West Hollywood Station Order 28**

Sergeant Velazquez added that although she has no personal knowledge, she has heard that it was common practice for Deputy Melkonians to have a ride-along in his car without prior approval.

Witness/Ride-along [redacted] was telephonically interviewed on February 10, 2003, at about 1228 hours. She said that she recalled going on a ride-along with Deputy Melkonians, however, she could not recall the exact date or time. She said that she became interested in going on a ride after Deputy Melkonians responded to a call in her apartment complex regarding a neighbor disturbance. When Deputy Melkonians arrived, she asked questions about the Department and he told her that he would see about having her come along in the patrol car with him. She told him that she would "love" to go in the car with him. Some time later, she did go for a ride. She said she signed a "waiver in the event something should happen." She then rode for a short period of time. She then made the following unsolicited comment regarding Deputy Melkonians: "He was professional and very nice and there didn't seem to be anything weird or strange at all. He was very professional."

Ms. [redacted] said she could not remember how she came to be in Deputy Melkonians' patrol car. She could not remember if she drove to the West Hollywood Station or if Deputy Melkonians picked her up at her home.

Regarding the "waiver," she said she was not sure when she filled out and signed the form; however, she recalled that "there was a certain standard where you can't have someone in the car unless you have a signed waiver." She believed that Deputy Melkonians wanted to be sure she read the form before she got in the car.

IAB Note: The ride-along waiver has the name [redacted] spelled [redacted] During his interview, Melkonians admitted that he filled out the form, signed it and had Ms. [redacted] sign the form. **Refer to Exhibit H-Ride-Along Waiver**

Ms. [redacted] said she recalled going inside the West Hollywood Station, but she did not remember if she filled out any paperwork while inside the station.

Melkonians was interviewed on April 15, 2003 regarding this incident. The interview was recorded and summarized as it relates to this case as follows:

During his interview regarding this incident, Melkonians related that he recalled having [redacted] as ride-along on September 12, 2002, the same night that he arrested [redacted] He said that he considered [redacted] an "acquaintance." When asked if she was a friend, he answered, "Friendly enough to come on a ride-along, sure."

Regarding the "Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver and Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement" (hereafter referred to as "Waiver"), Melkonians said he was familiar with the form. He was shown a copy of the "waiver" that was eventually submitted on the date of the ride-along and he recognized the printing and signature on the form to be his. He added that the printing in the upper right hand corner of the form was Sergeant Velazquez's writing and [redacted] signature was also on the form as the ride-along. **Refer to Exhibit H**

Melkonians could not remember when the "waiver" was filled out and signed, and he could not remember submitting the form. He could not remember if [redacted] was inside his car on a ride-along prior to the "waiver" being submitted to the Watch Sergeant or Watch Commander. Melkonians then made the following statement:

> "I'm going to make this easy for you sir, honestly. I'm a God loving Christian. I'm going to tell you exactly what I remember. I'm going to be honest with you. Okay? I took her on a ride-along that night. I don't remember what time I started my shift, unless you show me the in-service and I'll go along with what that says. I don't remember what time in the shift she got in my car. It was a busy night as you can tell. I do remember that at some point they were asking, 'Where is the ride-along form?' and I think I told them that I already submitted it. I believe I told them that I had already submitted the form and that there was a copy in my box. I don't know why they couldn't find the form, or what the problem was that night, but apparently the problem started with the fact that this was a last minute request for a ride-along and I didn't go through all the proper channels to put the ride-along through the...into the in-service book. So, that's how I think this problem started and that there was some anger there I guess from some of the sergeants or one of the sergeants, why I hadn't gone through the proper channels."

> **IAB Note:** Regarding Melkonians statement that he thought he already submitted the form, Sergeant Velazquez during her interview said that Melkonians did not submit the form until around midnight, when he came in to book. [redacted] went home at that time.

Melkonians was asked if he was familiar with the Department's Policy on ride-alongs and he said, "I'm not familiar with it, because it changes. It's been different at every station that I've worked at. It's been different at [redacted] it's been different at [redacted] it's been different at West Hollywood." He was shown a copy of West Hollywood Station Order # 28:Ride-Along Program. He said he was not aware of Station Order # 28 and it was never discussed or briefed to him at any time. Melkonians said his understanding of the Ride-Along Policy through his experience was that a "deputy comes up to the Sergeant, any Sergeant, hopefully the Watch Sergeant" and tell him, "Hey I got a ride-along tonight, is that okay? Sure, throw the [waiver] in the tray. Bye." He added the process was "very very nonchalant and very low key" and "an un-monitored process."

Melkonians could not remember if he had taken a ride-along at West Hollywood Station in the past, but did not think he ever had. He felt that this was the first time he had ever had a ride-along at West Hollywood Station, although he was not sure.

Regarding [redacted] Melkonians could not remember what time she got in his patrol car on the night of the ride-along. A review of his DDWS for that date did not help to refresh his memory as to when Ms. [redacted] entered his patrol car. However, he volunteered that it is not his custom to have a ride-along without the "waiver" signed prior to the ride-along getting in his car. Additionally, knowing that it was the same date that he arrested [redacted] did not refresh his memory as to when she got in his car; however, he did recall that she was in his patrol car at the time [redacted] was arrested. Melkonians could not recall if he picked her up at her house or if she came to the Station. He thought he might have come to the Station to pick her up, but he was not sure.

> **IAB Note:** At this point in the interview, Melkonians said, "Do you guys know how to get a hold of her, maybe you can talk to her. I'm sorry. Maybe I'm going to far there. Sorry about that."

When asked why he did not indicate on his DDWS that he had a ride-along, Melkonians said, "Because that's not a requirement, that you log ride-alongs." His understanding was that it was not necessary to include or mention a ride-along on a DDWS.

Melkonians said he did not recall if the Watch Sergeant pre-screened Ms. [redacted] by obtaining her CDL#, telephone #, purpose of the ride-along, or issue a standard green Observer Badge, prior to Ms. [redacted] going on the ride-along. He then added, "I don't remember if the Watch Sergeant did her job or not, that night. It was a busy night. It's always busy there. Ride-alongs are not that serious unless you're me. Then it's a serious issue." Melkonians did not recall how long Ms. [redacted] was in his patrol car. He did not remember if it was for the full shift. Melkonians did not

know that the Watch Commander was required to approve any ride-along with friends or family members, and assign those to another patrol unit. Melkonians said, "People ride, bring their friends all the time. Sergeants bring their buddies and throw them in the Sergeant's car. Nobody says anything. It happens all the time at West Hollywood."

> **IAB Note:** During his interview on the following day, we asked Melkonians for the names of Sergeants and Deputies at West Hollywood Station who have had ride-alongs without submitting the "waiver" and Melkonians said, "I'm not going to give you those names, because I don't remember those names. But it's common practice is all I'll say, sir." He added that he was not familiar with Department Policy regarding ride-alongs. He also said he could not remember Sergeant Velazquez asking him about the "next of kin" for [redacted] "waiver."

> **Additional IAB Note:** A major portion of the remainder of the interview was mostly an effort to refresh Melkonians' memory to determine when Ms. [redacted] started her ride-along and if the "waiver" was submitted prior to her entering Melkonians' patrol unit. MDT messages **(Exhibit J)** were reviewed in an effort to refresh Melkonians' memory as to when she entered the patrol car and when the "waiver" was submitted. Melkonians' DDWS, **(Exhibit K)** was also reviewed. None of these reviews refreshed Melkonians' memory. He could not recall. The MDT messages indicated that the "waiver" had not been submitted and the Watch Sergeant was waiting for the "waiver." **For a complete transcription of the interview, refer to Subject's Statements**

> **Additional IAB Note:** Melkonians was asked if he knew the purpose of the "waiver" and Helen Schwab answered for him stating, "It was probably provided by the Department's attorneys, that's probably why they have patrol deputies fill them out. But we're just speculating at that, I mean why would you want his speculative opinion about that?" After basically repeating the question for Melkonians he said, "I guess to protect the Department against any potential civil liability."

Regarding his conversation with Sergeant Velazquez, Melkonians said he thought he did recall having a conversation at some point in the shift with Sergeant Velazquez regarding the "waiver" and submitting it in a timely manner. Melkonians was asked, "Did you say to Sergeant Velazquez something to the effect, 'Why are you being so petty about the prior approval?'" Melkonians related that he was not sure, but thought that the "petty thing" was in reference to where the form was and not that it wasn't filled out. He did recall that he said the word "petty" because "she was so pissed off about that, that I felt bad about that and later I apologized." Melkonians did not recall telling Sergeant Velazquez, "I can't believe we're having this conversation!" Additionally, Melkonians did not remember giving the "waiver" to Sergeant Velazquez that night when he came in to book [redacted]

> **IAB Note:** According to Sergeant Velazquez, Melkonians actually submitted the "waiver" when he brought in [redacted] for booking and [redacted] left the station.

Melkonians said that he could not recall ever having a ride-along is his patrol car in the past without prior approval. Then he added, "Maybe there was one in the trunk that I didn't know about, but I haven't taken anybody that I know of." He said he was "fairly sure" of this and added, "I don't customarily violate procedure and policy, sir."

Melkonians denied ever talking to [redacted] and coaching her on what to tell Internal Affairs Bureau investigators if they called her.

> **IAB Note:** Due to the statements made by Deputy Melkonians that it was a common practice at West Hollywood Station for deputies to have ride-alongs without a waiver and further that the process was "very very nonchalant and very low key" and "an un-monitored process," additional interviews were conducted with the [redacted] Sergeant and two field sergeants at West Hollywood Station, and Melkonians' [redacted] Deputy when he was first assigned to West Hollywood Station. The interviews were tape recorded and summarized as follows:

On May 22, 2003, **Sergeant Scott Chew** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Chew is the [redacted] Sergeant at West Hollywood Station and has been for the past two [redacted] He has been assigned to West Hollywood Station for approximately three years. Sergeant Chew said that it has never been a common practice for deputies at West Hollywood Station to have a ride-along in their patrol car, without the waiver or prior approval. Sergeant Chew said that the names of the ride-alongs are entered in the Admin Calender and then placed on the in-service. When the ride-along comes to the station, they must fill out and sign the waiver. They are then given an "Observer" badge. Sergeant Chew said that there is a Station Order regarding the ride-along policy. The ride-along policy, along with all of the Station Orders, are available in the Watch Sergeant's office and generally, during the "orientation program," this information is passed along to the deputies. It was Sergeant Chew's opinion that the process is not un-monitored. Sergeant Chew said he has no personal knowledge of the "orientation" process that Melkonians went through when he was first assigned to West Hollywood Station; however, Sergeant Chew said that Melkonians was assigned to ride with another deputy specifically for "orientation" purposes when he first arrived. Sergeant Chew advised that when Deputy Melkonians arrived, a decision was made to have Melkonians ride with a [redacted] in order to fully explain the procedures at West Hollywood Station in order to provide Melkonians with the best opportunity to be a successful deputy at West Hollywood. After checking his records, Sergeant Chew determined that the deputy assigned to ride with Melkonians was Deputy Lloyd McCullough.

On May 22, 2003, **Sergeant Bruce Thomas** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Thomas has been assigned to West Hollywood Station for the past three years. He was also a deputy assigned to West Hollywood in 1990. Regarding the ride-along policy, Sergeant Thomas said that it has not changed since 1990. Essentially, a prior approval is required and the waiver has to be

submitted prior to the ride-along getting in the deputy's patrol car. Sergeant Thomas said that the process is definitely a monitored process.

On May 23, 2003, **Deputy Lloyd McCullough** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. He is currently assigned to patrol as a [redacted] He recalled that Deputy Melkonians was assigned to ride with him last year as part of an "orientation process." Regarding the ride-along policy, Deputy McCullough said that the ride-along process involves specific procedures. The procedures include the signing of a waiver, prior to the ride-along entering a patrol car. Deputy McCullough said he has no knowledge of these procedures not being followed on a regular basis. Deputy McCullough did not recall discussing the ride-along process with Deputy Melkonians.

On May 23, 2003, **Sergeant Marjory Jacobs** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Jacobs has been assigned to West Hollywood Station for about eighteen months. Regarding the ride-along policy at West Hollywood Station, Sergeant Jacobs essentially said that prior approval and a signed waiver are required before the ride-along enters a patrol unit. She added that it is common practice for these procedures to be followed.

IAB NOTE of TIME LINE OF INCIDENT (Compiled from MDT messages, Melkonians' DDWS and interview statements):

1800 hrs. — Melkonians starts his shift

1935 hrs. — Melkonians sends an MDT message to 97E, Deputy Hector Mancinas, "Like that...."

1935 hrs. — Deputy Mancinas typed back, "Nice....."

IAB Note: It was unknown what these two messages were in reference to. Due to the fact that they possibly were in reference to Melkonians' ride along and in an effort to determine the time that [redacted] entered Melkonians' patrol car, I interviewed Deputy Mancinas on June 12, 2003. Deputy Mancinas said that he could not recall these two MDT messages.

Around 2000 hrs. — According to Lt. Pattullo, an anonymous deputy advised her that Melkonians had a female passenger in his patrol car

Around 2100 hrs. — Lt. Pattullo asked Sgt. Velazquez if she had knowledge of Melkonians' ride-along and Sgt. Velazquez did not.

2124 hrs. — Melkonians sent MDT message asking Sgt. Velazquez if he could have a ride-along. He said the ride-along was "coming in at 10, couple hours only."

2126 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez replied asking, "Tonight?"
2137 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Yes Maam.... Just a couple of hours."
2139 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez replied, "Stop by,,, I need him to fill out the waiver."
2140 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Already done.... I'll drop it by." Then added, "It's a her by the way."
2249 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "Mel... Do u have that waiver...."
2251 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Enr w/it now Maam."
2305:19 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "Plz [redacted].... asap....thank u"
2305:44 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Maybe [redacted].. I'll be right there w/paper..."
2305:54 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to 90S, "Can U plz find Mel and tell him to [redacted]. He has not dropped off waiver.... Thanks"
2306:10 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "Neg....Lt. is waiting"
2306:30 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Copy"
2341 hrs.	Melkonians received call of [redacted] (During his interview, Melkonians admitted that [redacted] was in his patrol car at the time he received this call)
2353 hrs.	Melkonians arrived at the location of [redacted]
0005 hrs.	Melkonians booked Suspect [redacted] and submitted ride-along waiver to Sgt. Velazquez. Ms. [redacted] ended her ride and left the Station

Incident # 3

It is alleged in this incident that Deputy Melkonians, while on duty, was eating breakfast inside a restaurant and not acknowledging his radio or Mobile Digital Terminal. Additionally, his MDT indicated that he was handling a disturbance call at the time he was eating. Without responding to the call, Deputy Melkonians used his own cell phone and called the informant of the call and asked if the disturbance was still occurring and if the deputies were still needed. The informant said that the disturbance was over. Policy violations include *3-01/050.10-Performance to Standards, 3-01/050.05-Performance of Duty, 3-01/050.15-Duties of Deputy Personnel, and 3-01/100.35-False Information in Records.* **Refer to Exhibit L-Memorandum written by Lieutenant Pattullo**

Narrative

According to Lieutenant Pattullo's memo, on November 14, 2002, at about 0400 hours, she sent an MDT message to Deputy Melkonians requesting him to respond to the Watch Commander's office to sign a receipt for his returned Departmental equipment. Melkonians had just returned to work from [redacted] She received no acknowledgment from Deputy Melkonians. Approximately fifteen minutes later, she sent another MDT message to Deputy Melkonians. She did not get a response from this second message. Lieutenant Pattullo, having knowledge of prior communication problems with the Watch Commander's MDT, went to the desk area and asked Watch Deputy Steve Freiwirth if Deputy Melkonians was on a call. Deputy Freiwirth advised her that Melkonians' Deputy Daily Worksheet indicated that he was [redacted] on a [redacted] Disturbance call at [redacted]. **Refer to Exhibit M-Melkonians' DDWS for 11-13-02, Unit History Report, Incident Details for Tag 25 and West Hollywood Station In-Service for 11-13-02**

According to Lieutenant Pattullo, Deputy Freiwirth then "voiced" a request over West Hollywood Station's home frequency via SCC for Deputy Melkonians to acknowledge his MDT message. The "voiced" transmission was repeated two to three times, however, Deputy Melkonians did not acknowledge the radio. At about 0436 hours, Deputy Peltz, Unit 91, was sent to Deputy Melkonians' last known location, [redacted] On arrival, Deputy Peltz discovered that Deputy Melkonians was not at the location. Deputy Freiwirth then asked Deputy Peltz to drive by [redacted] to look for Deputy Melkonians.

> **IAB Note:** According to Lieutenant Pattullo's memorandum, it is common knowledge that Deputy Melkonians eats breakfast at "[redacted]" on a regular basis.

Deputy Peltz found Deputy Melkonians inside Jerry's Deli eating breakfast. Lieutenant Pattullo requested Deputy Melkonians to respond to her office. At about 0459 hours, nearly an hour after Lieutenant Pattullo had first attempted to reach Melkonians, he arrived at the Watch Commander's office. Lieutenant Pattullo had him sign the receipt for his equipment and then told him she would later discuss with him the incident of failing to acknowledge her.

On November 24, 2002, Lieutenant Pattullo spoke with Mr. [redacted], the informant on the

[redacted] call on [redacted] Street. Mr. [redacted] told her that his neighbors in apartment [redacted] have been a problem for the past two years and he has called the West Hollywood Station many times. Mr. [redacted] said on one occasion during the recent past when he called, a deputy did not physically come to his apartment; however, a male deputy called him, approximately forty-five minutes after he reported the disturbance. The deputy asked Mr. [redacted] if it was still necessary to respond. The deputy told Mr. [redacted] that he was delayed on another call. Mr. [redacted] said he told the deputy that the disturbance was over and there was no need to respond. The deputy did not respond. **Refer to Exhibit L-Memorandum written by Lieutenant Pattullo**

On January 29, 2003, I spoke with Mr. [redacted] on the phone. He told me essentially the same as what he told Lieutenant Pattullo as indicated in her memo. He did not have any additional information.

Melkonians was interviewed on April 15, 2003 regarding this incident. The interview was recorded and summarized as it relates to this case as follows:

During his interview regarding this incident, Melkonians related he recalled that on November 13, 2002, he went to see Lieutenant Pattullo, who was the Watch Commander, [redacted]

Melkonians said he did not remember receiving a call of a "415 Neighbor" later in the early morning at about 0354 hours. He was shown a copy of his DDWS for that date and specifically shown the call details **(Exhibit M)**. At this point in the interview, Melkonians asked what the specific allegation was regarding this incident. He was told that the allegation was that he did not go to the call. He said, "Okay, keep going." The details of the call were reviewed, specifically the en route, arrival and clearance times as indicated by his DDWS. At this point, Melkonians made the following statement:

> "I know exactly what happened here. This is going to be a real short incident. I can guarantee you that. I telephoned this informant on the phone, while en route to other calls, while I was so busy. I believe I called on my phone and you can check my cell phone records if you like. And that's what *'contact'* refers to, Contacted informant who states the... I probably should have put parenthesis 'phone call contact'...Contacted informant who states the party has subsided, talking has ceased, no need to contact [redacted] will call back if there's a further problem or need for the Sheriff's Department. Basically what I believe happened here is I made the phone call because it was so busy and there's no, obviously the en route and 97 time is just going to be the time I made the phone call or however I contacted her. And the time that I cleared it is just the time that I cleared it. And the reason I did that probably was because it was so busy and it was so late after 0400 hours in the morning. Sometimes what happens is the calls come out at this time, noise calls come out and we're so busy with noise calls that we don't get to all of them and sometimes we telephone them

and sometimes the dispatcher will 10-22 the call before we even get there, no need to respond. So what I practically said here was no need to contact [redacted] which was the problem, location, will call back if problem persists. What probably happened was I contacted them on the phone before they had an opportunity to contact the dispatcher and cancel the call. That's what happened."

Melkonians was then asked if he was busy or if there was anything on his log that indicated that he was busy that morning and he answered, "I don't know, I'm just assuming that might be the case, that I was busy. We get calls, and we have fights all the time, somebody gets on the radio and says 'Hey I need back up!, Meet me here, meet me there.'" Melkonians was asked again if there was anything on his log that indicated that he had any other calls at/or during the time of the "415 Neighbor" and he answered, "No."

Melkonians was then asked if he "physically" went to the location and he said, "I don't think I did. I don't know." He went on to explain that there was no way that he could have known the specific information that he entered into his DDWS without calling.

A short time later during this portion of the interview, Melkonians changed his statement by saying, "If I put 97, I at least drove by that address. If I put 97 somewhere, that means I went to that address. But I will also tell you this, sometimes we leave ourselves 97 on incidents and don't hit the 98 button for some time thereafter, for whatever reason. Sometimes we forget. I know I went to [redacted] and my radio was low that night. Okay? I know that I was at [redacted] and I had showed 97 at the call, but I was not there."

Melkonians was asked to explain how it was that he did not respond to several MDT messages from Lieutenant Pattullo and several "voiced" requests to acknowledge his MDT and radio; how he was not at the location of the call when his DDWS, which is an official record of the Department, indicates he was 97; and why he was eating breakfast at [redacted] when his DDWS indicated that he was 97 at a "415 Neighbor" call. Melkonians answered, "As I said before, sometimes we'll go 97 on calls... now I'm going to be honest... this may have not been the time that I telephoned an informant, I've probably done it five or six times at West Hollywood on the phone, that I've telephoned informants without actually going to calls. I don't know if this was one of them... one of the times. Of course, it would be ridiculous calls, like dogs barking or something like this. However, if I put 97 there, that means I at least drove by the call, that means I went 97, that's what that means."

Melkonians was asked if he talked to the informant [redacted] that night face to face. Melkonians said, "I don't remember." Melkonians then said that it was not uncommon for a deputy to show on his or her log that he was "97" at a location and not actually be at the location. Melkonians was asked why he would go "97" on a call and not contact the informant. He answered, "Contact is contact, by telephone or physically." He then said, "If I went in person, hopefully I would have contacted the informant. If I didn't go in person, then I would have least made a

telephonic contact with the person knowing this is probably a nonsense call anyway. It's four in the morning, it's a, we get these..."

Melkonians then continued, "All right, given my understanding of the nature of these ridiculous calls, sometimes we telephone the informant." Melkonians said that this is basically the same as the dispatcher calling the informant.

Melkonians was asked if he understood that a Deputy's Daily Worksheet (DDWS) was an official record of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and he answered, "Yes." Melkonians denied that he knowingly and willingly entered a false and inaccurate time and information on the DDWS; however, he again said that he did not remember if he actually went to the call, nor did he remember talking to the informant, Mr. [redacted] face to face. Melkonians was then asked, " If he told us that you called him that night, would that help refresh your memory?" Melkonians answered, "Yeah." Melkonians was then asked, "Okay did you see him face to face?" He answered, "No, but I probably drove by." Melkonians was then asked, "Sometime during and before you cleared this call at 0519 hours, were you at [redacted] having breakfast?" He answered, "Yes I was between those two times." Melkonians was asked if it took him one hour and thirteen minutes to handle the call as is indicated on his DDWS and he answered, "Of course not, of course not!"

Melkonians was asked if he knew of any Department policy that allowed a deputy who received a call for service, to handle that call by calling the informant. Melkonians replied that he did not know of any written policy, however, he had seen it done before. He then stated, "I've seen it done by my training officers, I've seen it done by field personnel, I've seen it done by sergeants in West Hollywood, I've seen it done by Lieutenants...in the field. I have seen this done before, that's how I came to do it. I didn't invent this. It was a low level call, a '415 Neighbor' call, for whatever reason, I showed 97, which means I probably went driving by the location, didn't hear anything, and then got on the phone, called this gentleman up, referred to this incident, just like a dispatcher would. I've worked dispatcher before, and I'm sure I'll work dispatcher again. I asked him if there was a continuous problem there or if we needed to continue to respond and he said, 'No.' So basically, I, before he had a chance to call the station and 10-22 the call, I called him, spoke on the phone. As far as the hours are concerned, I went 97, forgot to push the 98 button. Forgot to push the 98 button, went to breakfast, was unable to be located because my radio was low, deputy went out, found me, end of story. The fact that it says 73 minutes, there is an explanation for it. I forgot to push the 98 button. And as far as contact goes, contact is contact, by telephone or other means."

> **IAB Note:** During his interview on the following day, Melkonians was asked again what would be the reason to drive by a location of a call, push the 97 button and not stop and talk to the informant. Melkonians replied, "Several things could have happened. It could have been some [redacted] traffic that came out, asking for back-up, there could have been a routine request, I could have had a cell phone call from somebody in the field, we all have each other's cell phone numbers in the field, to meet somebody, it could have been... it could have been that I just got lazy. It could

have been that I had a breakfast appointment. I don't remember. But anything could have happened. It could have been that there was a big truck in the middle of the road that I couldn't stop or something, I don't know. I really don't remember. I do know that I put contact because I made the contact. I do know that I at least drove by because I pushed the 97 button. I also know that I did not have personal face to face contact with Mr. [redacted]. As far as the reason why, at this point, six or seven months later, speculation... I don't know."

Regarding Melkonians' earlier statements that it was common practice for deputies to call informants from the field to see if they were still needed and that he was trained to do this, Melkonians was asked for the names of his [redacted] and the names of who he knows has done this in the past. Melkonians said, "Sarge, hundreds and thousands of calls later, all this time later, you're asking me to go and give you specific names of people that I've seen make... do this common thing-- call informants up and ask questions about the call whether or not... I don't know. I don't have independent remembrance." He was then asked for the name of his [redacted] who [redacted] him to do that. He said he had three [redacted], Deputies [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] and all were from [redacted] Station. Melkonians again related that it was common practice for deputies at West Hollywood Station to use their cell phones "a lot" to contact informants. He was then asked for the name of any deputy that he knew that had done this and he said that he could not remember any names. He also did not know which [redacted] taught him to do this. He then added that it may not have been any of those three [redacted] it could have been a [redacted]

> **IAB Note:** Due to the statements made by Deputy Melkonians that it was a common practice at West Hollywood Station for deputies to use their cell phones to call informants and further that he was trained to do that, additional interviews were conducted with Melkonians' [redacted] the [redacted] Sergeant and two field sergeants at West Hollywood Station, and Melkonians' Orientation Deputy when he was first assigned to West Hollywood Station. The interviews were tape recorded and summarized as follows:

On May 14, 2003, **Deputy** [redacted] was interviewed at Crescenta Valley Station. He related that he did [redacted] Deputy Melkonians for [redacted] approximately three to four years ago. When specifically asked if he had [redacted] Melkonians to ever handle a disturbance call by calling the informant on a cell phone without actually going to the location of the call, Deputy Rousseau said, "No. Not only have I never [redacted] him to do that, I've never done that my self, nor have I ever seen anybody do that." Deputy Rousseau was then asked if he knew of any other [redacted] officer that [redacted] that procedure and he related that he has never heard of any [redacted] officer teaching that procedure in the past or present.

On May 15, 2003, **Deputy** [redacted] was interviewed at Family Crimes Bureau's north office. He related that he recalled [redacted] Deputy Melkonians for about [redacted], sometime in [redacted]

[redacted] When specifically asked if he had [redacted] Melkonians to ever handle any type of a disturbance call by calling the informant on a cell phone without actually going to the location of the call, Deputy [redacted] said, "Absolutely not!" Deputy [redacted] added that he had never seen anyone else follow that procedure, nor had he known of any other [redacted] officer teach that procedure.

On May 20, 2003, **Deputy** [redacted] was interviewed at the Weapons Training Center at the Pitchess Detention Center. He recalled that he [redacted] Deputy Melkonians about [redacted] ago for approximately [redacted] When specifically asked if he had [redacted] Melkonians to ever handle any type of a disturbance call by calling the informant on a cell phone without actually going to the location of the call, Deputy Brandriff said, "No!" Deputy [redacted] said that he knew of no other [redacted] officers that taught that procedure, nor was it a common practice at any station he has worked.

On May 22, 2003, **Sergeant Scott Chew** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Chew is the [redacted] Sergeant at West Hollywood Station and has been for the [redacted] He has been assigned to West Hollywood Station for approximately three years. When specifically asked if he had any knowledge of a procedure that was [redacted] to deputies to handle any type of a disturbance call by calling the informant on a cell phone without actually going to the location of the call, in order to ask if the deputy was still needed, Sergeant Chew said, "No!" Sergeant Chew said that he didn't know any training officers that taught that procedure, nor was it a common practice. As a Field Sergeant, Sergeant Chew said he would not have allowed that procedure to occur.

On May 22, 2003, **Sergeant Bruce Thomas** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Thomas has been assigned to West Hollywood Station for the past three years. He was also a deputy assigned to West Hollywood in 1990. During his time at West Hollywood Station, Sergeant Thomas said it has never been a common practice for deputies to handle disturbance calls by the handling deputy calling the informant on a personal cell phone to ascertain if the deputy is still needed. He said that procedure is not taught at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Thomas added that personnel at West Hollywood take pride in responding to all calls, no matter how trivial they may seem.

On May 23, 2003, **Deputy Lloyd McCullough** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. He is currently assigned to patrol as a [redacted] He recalled that Deputy Melkonians was assigned to ride with him last year as part of an [redacted] Deputy McCullough said it was not a common practice at West Hollywood Station for deputies to handle disturbance calls by using their personal cell phones. Deputy McCullough added that he had never taught that procedure to Melkonians.

On May 23, 2003, **Sergeant Marjory Jacobs** was interviewed at West Hollywood Station. Sergeant Jacobs has been assigned to West Hollywood Station for about eighteen months. Sergeant Jacobs said that it is not common practice for deputies to handle disturbance calls by using their cell phones. She added that she has never taught that procedure, nor has she known anyone to teach a procedure similar to that.

IAB NOTE of TIME LINE OF INCIDENT (Compiled from MDT messages, Melkonians' DDWS and interview statements):

0301 hrs.	According to Melkonians' DDWS, he arrived a[redacted] regarding a 503R.
0305 hrs.	Melkonians sent an MDT message to WHD01, "The car is parked in front of the B of A... Across from Jerry's, Tx Plates... No Inf."
0306 hrs.	WHD01 replied, "Nope New Mexico plates."
0307 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "No inf in front of [redacted].. Empty streets. Plz try to re cont inf."
0308 hrs.	WHD01 replied, "In front of the 'Waterworks' is where he said he was."
0308 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Ok stand by...."
0314:17 hrs.	Lt. Pattullo sent MDT message to Melkonians, "I'll just have you sign the receipt to show I returned your property... when you have time... k...
0314:37 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Okie Dokie."
B/T 0316 & 0328 hrs.	According to the MDT log, several messages were sent B/T Melkonians and WHD01 regarding the 503R. **Refer to Exhibit N-MDT messages dated 11-14-02**

IAB Note: There are no other MDT messages from Melkonians' MDT after 0328 hrs. until 0454 hrs. (Note 0454 hrs. below.)

0354 hrs.	Melkonians' DDWS indicates that he received a call of 415N, acknowledged the call and went en route.
0406 hrs.	Melkonians' DDWS indicates that he arrived at the 415N call.
0434 hrs.	Lt. Pattullo sent another MDT message to Melkonians, "R U coming in... I leave in 10 min...???"

About 0435 hrs.	According to Lt. Pattullo, she walked to the desk and asked the Watch Deputy if Melkonians was on a call. Deputy Freiwirth advised that Melkonians was 10-97 on a 415N call. A "voiced" request was sent to Melkonians. He did not respond to the "voiced" request.
0436 hrs.	According to Lt. Pattullo, she sent Deputy Peltz to the location of the 415N call. Melkonians was not at the location.
0442 hrs.	WHD01 sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "10-19 W/Comm."
Approx. 0445 hrs.	According to Lt. Pattullo, the Informant on the 415N call received a telephone call from a deputy asking if it was still necessary for the deputy to come to the location. The deputy told him he was delayed on another call. Informant told the deputy that the disturbance was over and no need to respond. (Melkonians log indicated no other calls for service at that time.)
0449 hrs.	Unit 91, Deputy Peltz, sent Melkonians an MDT message, "U there..." (MDT log indicates that Melkonians did not reply to this message.)
B/T 0436 & 0455 hrs.	According to Lt. Pattullo, Deputy Peltz drove to Jerry's Deli and discovered Melkonians eating breakfast. Deputy Peltz told Melkonians to contact the desk.
0454 hrs.	Melkonians sent an MDT message to Deputy Peltz, "Thx again."
0454 hrs.	Deputy Peltz replied, "No prob..."
0459 hrs.	Melkonians walked into Lt. Pattullo's office.
0519 hrs.	Melkonians' log shows 10-98 on the 415N call.

Incident # 4

It is alleged in this incident that Deputy Melkonians, while having a dating relationship with [redacted] a stripper at the [redacted] visited her while he was on duty. After about a month into the relationship, Ms. [redacted] tried to break off the relationship, and Melkonians threatened her and her ex-boyfriend. It is further alleged that while Ms. [redacted] was out with an ex-boyfriend, Deputy Melkonians called LAPD and reported that Ms. [redacted] had been kidnaped. The call to LAPD resulted in Ms. [redacted] and her ex-boyfriend being stopped, held at gunpoint and handcuffed by LAPD officers. It is also alleged that Deputy Melkonians unlawfully evicted a tenant who was renting his condo. Deputy Melkonians later attempted to tell Witness [redacted] what to say to Internal Affairs Bureau investigators. Policy violations include *3-01/030.05-General Behavior, 3-01/030.15-Conduct Toward Others, 3-01/050.05-Performance of Duty, and 3-01/040.76-Obstructing an Investigation.*

Narrative

On November 15, 2002, [redacted] in Watch Commander's Service Comment Report #116418 (**Refer to Exhibit O-WCSCR #116418**) alleged that she has had a dating relationship with Deputy Melkonians from about October 2002 to November 15, 2002. She has tried to break off the relationship, however, Deputy Melkonians has called her several times the few days prior to November 15th and threatened her, and took property from her.

Ms. [redacted] said that she met Deputy Melkonians in June of 2002 at the [redacted] where she is employed as a stripper. Ms. [redacted] said that Melkonians told her that he was a real estate agent and he could get her a house. He would also come to visit her at the [redacted] while he was on duty.

Ms. [redacted] further alleged that about three weeks prior to November 15, 2002, she was out with an ex-boyfriend, [redacted] when they were stopped by LAPD police officers from Van Nuys Station. Ms. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] were held at gunpoint and handcuffed. The police asked Ms. [redacted] if she was being held against her will. She denied that she was. According to Ms. [redacted] an LAPD officer told her at the scene that a cop had called and reported that Ms. [redacted] was being kidnaped by [redacted]. Ms. [redacted] said that Deputy Melkonians told her later that he had called LAPD and made that report. She added that Melkonians told her to keep her ex-boyfriend out of his city or he would be arrested.

Ms. [redacted] also alleged that she rented a condo from Melkonians and he locked her out of the condo and took her property. Melkonians also took possession of a truck he had given her.

> **IAB Note:** According to the WCSCR, Ms. [redacted] mother, [redacted], is the one who changed the locks, packaged her daughter's property, and kicked her daughter out of the condo.

Witness [redacted] was interviewed at Internal Affairs Bureau on February 10, 2003 at 1010 hours by Sergeants William Hines and Elier Morejon. Mr. [redacted] interview was tape recorded and summarized as it relates to this case as follows:

Mr. [redacted] related that he is currently dating Ms. [redacted]. Mr. [redacted] said he first started dating [redacted] about two years ago. She also lived with him during this time. Sometime in October 2002, he and Ms. [redacted] made plans to go out to dinner. They met on Burbank Boulevard somewhere in Van Nuys. They each drove their own vehicles. Ms. [redacted] parked her car in a parking lot and they got in Mr. [redacted] pick-up and drove to dinner at the Saddle Ranch Inn in Hollywood on Sunset Boulevard. After dinner, between midnight and 2 a.m., Ms. [redacted] drove Mr. [redacted] pick-up back to Ms. [redacted] car. On the way back they stopped for gas and became involved in a "slight little argument." They then drove on to the parking lot. As they pulled into the parking lot, several police cars pulled in behind them. The officers ordered them out of the pick-up and to walk backward toward the officers. They were then ordered down on the ground and handcuffed at gunpoint. The officers questioned Mr. [redacted] and Ms. [redacted] separately. The officers said they were investigating a call of a kidnaping. The officers went on to say that it was alleged that Ms. [redacted] had been kidnaped by Mr. [redacted]. Mr. [redacted] asked the officers how that was possible since Ms. [redacted] was the one driving. Mr. [redacted] told the officers that it was a false accusation. One officer then said, "Well if no one here is being kidnaped, we'll let you go." The officers then told them to have a good night and left. Mr. [redacted] did not get any names of the officers. The officers did not tell Mr. [redacted] who made the call of the kidnaping. He added that Ms. [redacted] said she also did not know who made the call to LAPD.

Mr. [redacted] said he could not recall the date and time of the incident, but he called his attorney the next morning and left a message regarding the incident. He said that we could call his attorney, [redacted] at [redacted]

> **IAB Note:** After several calls to Mr. [redacted] Mr. [redacted] and LAPD, it was determined that the date of the stop by LAPD was at about 0212 hours on October 11, 2003. It was also determined that the location of the stop by LAPD was the parking lot of the Encino Glen Golf Course located between Havenhurst and Balboa.

Regarding the argument at the gas station, Mr. [redacted] said that it was not a "big" argument. Ms. [redacted] only walked away a short distance, then returned about three minutes later and every thing was fine. They then got in the pick-up and Ms. [redacted] drove away. In Mr. [redacted] opinion, the argument was not "heated" and would not be viewed as kidnaping. He felt that [redacted] could have had time to make a phone call when she walked away.

Mr. [redacted] then added that later, Ms. [redacted] told him that Melkonians called LAPD. When asked to explain this comment, Mr. [redacted] said that Ms. [redacted] at one time was living with him [redacted] She then moved in with Ara (Melkonians). She was then "going back and forth" between him and Melkonians. She then made a decision to move back in with him [redacted] According to

Mr. [redacted] Melkonians would call and tell him that [redacted] was going to move back with him (Melkonians). Mr. [redacted] said that he had to change his phone numbers to prevent Melkonians from calling. Mr. [redacted] felt that Ms. [redacted] did not call Melkonians when she walked away at the gas station because when they were pulled over, she was "crying" and "she did not know what was going on." Mr. [redacted] could not speculate how Melkonians would know he [redacted] and Ms. [redacted] were together on the night of the incident.

Regarding Melkonians, Ms. [redacted] told [redacted] that Melkonians had "people following" him [redacted] According to Mr. [redacted] Melkonians would telephone Mr. [redacted] and would know "every thing that was going on" at [redacted] house. Also according to Mr. [redacted] the people that were following him were private investigators and a "sheriff friend" of Melkonians named [redacted] who lives in Riverside.

Mr. [redacted] related that he has never met Deputy Melkonians, however, he has seen him in photographs. Also, Melkonians has called [redacted] and told him to "stay out of Hollywood." These calls came in on [redacted] cell phone. The phone calls started sometime in mid-October 2002, after [redacted] went to visit [redacted] where she worked as a dancer at the [redacted] in West Hollywood. Mr. [redacted] said he knew it was Deputy Melkonians who called because Melkonians identified himself. According to [redacted] during the second phone call, which was sometime around November 1st, Deputy Melkonians asked, "You know what I do, right? I'm a sheriff, so you should watch what you're doing." Also during this call, Melkonians told [redacted] "She [redacted] doesn't want to have anything to do with you, she doesn't want to talk to you." On a third phone call, just before November 15th, Melkonians called and told [redacted] that he (Melkonians) was going to marry [redacted] Mr. [redacted] thinks that Melkonians obtained his [redacted] cell from number from [redacted] mother, because at the time, [redacted] and her mother were renting a condo from Melkonians.

After [redacted] made the complaint, Mr. [redacted] said he did not receive anymore calls from Melkonians.

Regarding the allegation of Melkonians evicting Ms. [redacted] Mr. [redacted] said he heard that Melkonians had changed the locks on [redacted] apartment and locked her out sometime after November 1st.

> **IAB Note:** Mr. [redacted] said later in the interview that he also heard that Melkonians bought [redacted] a Chevrolet Z71 truck and a "boob job" sometime in October.

Mr. [redacted] concluded the interview by saying that he never felt threatened by the phone calls from Melkonians. [redacted] currently lives with Mr. [redacted] Mr. [redacted] does not know if [redacted] still has a relationship with Melkonians at this time.

> **IAB Note:** At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. [redacted] provided investigators a copy of a statement written by [redacted] **Refer to Exhibit P-Copy of statement written by Ms. [redacted]**

[redacted] mother of [redacted] was telephonically interviewed on February 20, 2003, at 1311 hours. [redacted] interview was tape recorded and summarized as it relates to this case as follows:

[redacted] had just moved to [redacted] at the time of the interview. She said that she met Deputy Melkonians through her daughter, [redacted] Additionally, she rented a condo from Deputy Melkonians from October 15, 2002, to February 12, 2003. The address was [redacted] According to [redacted] Melkonians asked her to move into his condo when [redacted] was having problems with her ex-boyfriend, [redacted] She explained that [redacted] had dated [redacted] for "quite some time" then she broke up with [redacted] and started dating Mel (Melkonians). After [redacted] broke up with [redacted] he started calling [redacted] asking about [redacted] started being "a little abusive" to [redacted] and Melkonians suggested that she move into his condo. [redacted] also moved into the condo with her mother, [redacted]

When asked if Deputy Melkonians ever locked [redacted] out of the condo, [redacted] said, "No, I did."

Regarding her daughter's relationship with Melkonians, [redacted] explained that [redacted] also had "problems" with Melkonians. [redacted] would "go back and forth" between Mel and [redacted] On one night, when [redacted] was with [redacted] they got into a fight and [redacted] called her mother, [redacted] called Melkonians and Melkonians drove to where [redacted] and [redacted] were staying. While on the phone with [redacted] told her to go outside because Mel was out there and would protect her. [redacted] eventually went out and left with Melkonians.

[redacted] also related that Melkonians had told her on a number of occasions that he had hired people to watch and to follow [redacted] According to [redacted] Melkonians stated, "Don't worry about it, I've got things in the works. I've hired people to watch him ([redacted] and he's going down. He's going down big! I can't tell you everything, because I can't get you involved." On at least ten occasions, [redacted] said that she was with Melkonians when he was on the phone talking to people about following [redacted] and watching [redacted] One of the people Melkonians talked to was allegedly another law enforcement officer who worked some type of drug enforcement for another Department. [redacted] opined that Melkonians was following [redacted] because he felt [redacted] was dealing drugs and because he (Melkonians) wanted [redacted] back. [redacted] never saw or heard Melkonians threaten [redacted]

Regarding the alleged eviction, [redacted] said that Melkonians did in fact evict her for failing to pay her rent. She admitted that she only paid one month of rent; however, she explained that Melkonians told her to quit her job and kept promising her a job. He told her not to worry about paying the rent. She quit her job October 27, 2002. He continually told her that he would get her a job in his side business of real estate. He did not get her a job and eventually told her she had two days to move out. When she said she had no place to go, Melkonians allegedly said, "I don't care if you have to live in your car. You have no other choice, you have to be out by Saturday, or else. I have people moving in." He did not serve her a "three day notice to pay or quit" and he did not

serve her an "unlawful detainer." When she told him she couldn't be out in two days, he offered to pay for the moving truck. On the day she moved, she called and asked him for the money to pay for the moving truck, and Melkonians "called her every name in the book" and said he was going to take her to court and sue her. [redacted] had a one year lease and Melkonians would not provide her a copy of the lease.

According to [redacted] Melkonians gave her a job reference letter stating that she worked for him at his real estate company.

Regarding the LAPD stop of her daughter and [redacted] said she had knowledge of the incident and recalled that it was between October 10th and October 15th. She explained that on the date of the incident, Mel called her about five o'clock in the morning and told her about the incident. Melkonians said that [redacted] had kidnaped [redacted], and [redacted] had called Mel for help. [redacted] told Mel the street she was on and the phone went dead. Melkonians then called the police to report the kidnaping.

When asked who she believed regarding this alleged kidnaping, [redacted] said at the time she believed Melkonians, but now she knows him better and knows that he lies. She also added that her daughter, [redacted] also "sometimes exaggerates the truth," so [redacted] doesn't know whom to believe. [redacted] would not discuss the kidnaping incident with [redacted]

When specifically asked if Melkonians had called and told her that he was under investigation and what she should tell investigators, [redacted] said, "Yes. He just called me up and told me that there was going to be an investigation on him and if I would say something...I can't remember what he told me to say and I said all I'm going to do is tell the truth, no matter what." She recalled "cutting him off" because she didn't want to hear what he wanted her to say because she didn't want to lie about anything. She went on to say that Melkonians tried to tell her what to say to investigators on two different occasions; the first time was over the phone and the second time was in person. The first time she can't remember the date, but the second time was around the end of January or the first of February.

Complainant [redacted] was interviewed on February 20, 2003, at 1649 hours at [redacted] by Internal Affairs Bureau investigators Sergeants William Hines and Elier Morejon. The interview was tape recorded and summarized below. **Refer to Complainant's Interview for a complete transcription**

[redacted] lives at [redacted] with [redacted] made a complaint on November 15, 2002 with the West Hollywood Station Watch Commander. **Refer to Exhibit O-Watch Commander Service Comment Report #116418**

[redacted] said she recalled making the complaint. She went on to say that she had a dating relationship with Deputy Melkonians. She met him sometime in August 2002, while she was working at the [redacted] a strip club in West Hollywood. He told her he was "in real estate"

and gave her his card. He put his number and cell phone number on the card and said if she needed anything, she could call him. She said that Melkonians "hung out at her work." He would come in while on and off duty. According to [redacted] Deputy Melkonians would come into the strip club almost every night. Sometimes he would stay for a short time and other times he would stay until he got a call. He would then return after the call. She emphasized that he was in the club frequently. She said that he came in on a regular basis, and still to this day comes into the [redacted] said she no longer works at the [redacted] She quit working there prior to November 15th.

> **IAB Note:** Since [redacted] no longer works at the [redacted] she was asked how she knows Melkonians still goes there. She said the "door guy" is a friend named [redacted] and he told her. IAB investigators were not able to locate nor interview [redacted]

[redacted] said she broke off her dating relationship with Melkonians prior to making the complaint. She explained that Melkonians would call her several times on her cell phone after she broke up with him. The phone calls would not stop and it got to the point that she had to "disconnect" her phone. Melkonians then started calling her mother, [redacted] to get information on [redacted]

When asked to explain "threatened" as mentioned in her complaint, [redacted] said, "Not threaten my well-being like I'm going to kill you or I'm going to kick your ass, or something like that. Threaten me to the point to where, 'You're not going to have a job anymore, you're not going to work, you're not going to have a place to live, your mother isn't going to have a place to live, your mother's not going to have a job, I'm going to put [redacted] in jail,' things like that. He's never threatened my personal well-being, as physicalness." Although she didn't feel her life was threatened, she said the phone calls were annoying and she felt threatened by them.

Regarding the complaint of Melkonians taking property from her, [redacted] explained that he had bought her a truck as a gift. He even put a "big bow" on it. When they broke up, Melkonians would take back the truck, then give it back to her when they started dating again. The second time she broke up with him, he came to her house at about five o'clock in the morning (unknown date) and banged on the door and took the truck. She added the truck was never registered to her, however, it was supposed to eventually be registered in her name. According to [redacted] after their current break up, Melkonians gave the truck to another dancer at the [redacted] named [redacted] When [redacted] didn't want to drive the truck because she knew it was originally [redacted] Melkonians took back the truck from [redacted] and bought her a Cadillac. [redacted] was asked if Melkonians had given her any other gifts during their relationship and she said, "My boobs!"

Regarding the stop by LAPD, [redacted] said she could only guess that it was very late at night sometime possibly on a Friday night in October. She met [redacted] at a parking lot near Burbank Boulevard west of Havenhurst, near Lake Balboa Park. She dropped off her car at the lot and they then took [redacted] truck to dinner at the Saddle Ranch Restaurant in Hollywood. After dinner, she drove them back to her car. On the way back, they stopped at a gas station on Laurel Canyon and

they got into "a big ol' fight." She said, "We were sitting there, yelling at each other." She got out of the truck and started walking down Laurel Canyon. She was "crying and angry" and tried to call her mom. Her mom did not answer so [redacted] left a message, "[redacted] and I are fighting. I need someone to talk to." Her mom immediately called [redacted] back and asked what was going on. [redacted] said that she was fighting with [redacted] She then told her mom that she was walking down Laurel Canyon. She then told her mom, "Never mind, [redacted] driving back over to me." [redacted] then hung up. [redacted] assumed that her mom immediately called Ara (Melkonians) and told him about the fight. About five minutes after hanging up with her mom, [redacted] phone rang and she thought it was her mom calling back, however, when she answered, it was Melkonians and he asked her what was going on. She was crying and both her and [redacted] were yelling at each other so she immediately hung up the phone.

> **IAB Note:** Later in the interview, [redacted] said it took her about one minute before she hung up the phone. She then changed her estimate to about twenty seconds. Additionally, [redacted] did not recall if she told her mom that she was in [redacted] truck at the time of the argument with [redacted] She assumed that when she told her mom that she was walking down Laurel Canyon and [redacted] was in his truck, that would give her mom the hint that she and [redacted] were together.

[redacted] then pulled up to [redacted] and apologized. She got in the driver's seat and they sat for awhile and talked. They then drove on to her car. As they were turning on Havenhurst, [redacted] phone rang again and she saw that it was Melkonians calling. She didn't answer her cell phone and Melkonians kept calling her until she finally just turned her phone off. [redacted] noticed it was Melkonians calling so he got mad and they got into another fight. The next thing [redacted] knew, they were getting pulled over by LAPD. She pulled into the parking lot where her car was parked. About six LAPD patrol cars pulled in behind and ordered them out of the truck at gunpoint. [redacted] and [redacted] were both put on the ground and handcuffed. They were separated and questioned. The officers explained that they had received a call of a kidnaping. [redacted] explained that no one had been kidnaped, only that she had been in a fight with [redacted] One of the LAPD officers asked [redacted] if she had called a "cop" or a "friend police officer." [redacted] said no, but she told them she knew an officer that had called her tonight. The officer then asked if she had been dating this officer and [redacted] told them, "Not anymore." The officers looked at each other and "smirked." [redacted] was then un-handcuffed and told they could go.

[redacted] adamantly denied ever telling anyone that night that she had been kidnaped. She also said that she did not have a conversation with Melkonians that night. She again adamantly denied telling her mother or Melkonians to call LAPD because she was being kidnaped. [redacted] further related that she spoke to Melkonians sometime after the incident, and Melkonians admitted to her that he had in fact called LAPD that night. When [redacted] asked Melkonians why he did that, Melkonians told her he did it because he "wanted to put [redacted] away." According to [redacted] Melkonians also told her, "When I called you that night I wanted to talk to you, I was trying to be a friend, [redacted] is yelling at you in the background and you hang up on me. Not cool." About two days later,

[redacted] asked Melkonians why he thought she was being kidnaped, Melkonians told her, "Because I heard [redacted] yelling at you in the background and then you hung up on me, I didn't know what to do, I was worried about you, you were crying." She further explained that the conversations with Melkonians were originated by him calling her cell phone. She would answer, so he would leave her alone.

[redacted] was asked her opinion on the reason Melkonians called LAPD to report a kidnaping. [redacted] stated, "I think, I don't think kidnaping is the right word, no... I think that was a little extreme. The argumentative side, I can understand him hearing [redacted] in the background, me crying, whatever. But I don't, no, I don't think it was right for him to jump and take the lead to the whole kidnaping. I think that was a little extreme. And he knows, from what I have spoken to him about [redacted] that that's ridiculous. [redacted] would not do something like that, especially to me." She felt Melkonians did this in an attempt to get back at [redacted] and her for leaving him after buying her a truck and plastic surgery. She said, "I'm sure he (Melkonians) was pissed off."

[redacted] said she never heard Melkonians threaten [redacted] however, Melkonians told her that he was going to put [redacted] in jail, "he (Melkonians) was going to get him [redacted] for taking me [redacted] away from him (Melkonians)." [redacted] also related that her mother, [redacted] told her that Melkonians told her [redacted] that he (Melkonians) had hired people to watch [redacted] house and to follow [redacted] [redacted] related that one night about three o'clock in the morning (unknown date possibly around the beginning of November), she got in a fight with [redacted] She looked outside and saw Melkonians parked in front of the house. He was in sitting in a Suburban or Tahoe that belonged to someone named [redacted] who is allegedly a partner of Melkonians.

> **IAB Note:** Witness [redacted] also said that Melkonians hired people to follow [redacted] during her interview. [redacted] also mentioned the incident when Melkonians was parked outside [redacted] house.
>
> **Additional IAB Note:** [redacted] also alleged that when she first started dating Melkonians, he was going to court on an incident where he was accused of sitting in front of his ex-girlfriend's house. Investigators were unable to confirm this allegation.

Regarding her complaint of Melkonians locking her out of her condo, [redacted] explained that she and her mother [redacted] together rented the same condo. [redacted] said that her mother and Melkonians locked her out by changing the locks. She added that Melkonians later also kicked her mom [redacted] out of the condo. **Refer to Witness [redacted] interview**

[redacted] said that she has not talked to Melkonians for a least a couple of months. When asked if Melkonians has talked to her about this investigation and told her what to say to investigators, she denied that he has contacted her.

[redacted] was specifically asked if she had ever called Melkonians and told him that she had changed her mind and did not want to make a complaint and she answered, "No." She was also asked if she ever left a message on Melkonians answering machine, telling him she did not want to make a complaint and she answered, "No." She said she had discussed it with her mom, but never with Melkonians. [redacted] said her mom tried to convince her not to make a complaint against Melkonians. Her mom told her that it wasn't fair or nice to make the complaint. Her mom also told her that Melkonians was upset about the complaint. She concluded by saying her position is that she still wants to proceed with her complaint against Melkonians.

> **IAB Note:** On December 1, 2002, Deputy Melkonians submitted an audio tape to Sergeant Mary Michel. He said the tape was from his "ex" and recorded from his cell phone message system. On the tape, the female voice basically says she was sorry about the complaint and that she called the Watch Commander at West Hollywood Station to drop the complaint. The voice also asks about meeting for breakfast. This tape was played for [redacted] at the conclusion of her interview. She said it was her voice, however, she did not recall making the call. In listening to the tape, [redacted] said her motive was probably to continue to be friends with Melkonians for the benefit of her mom. She did admit calling a Watch Commander to drop the complaint. She said she did this because her mom pressured her to drop the complaint. According to [redacted] Melkonians called her mom and asked her [redacted] to ask [redacted] to drop the complaint because he didn't want it on his record. Melkonians did not ask [redacted] to drop the complaint. Regarding the request for breakfast, [redacted] said she did not meet Melkonians for breakfast on the morning of the call, however, it was common for her to meet Melkonians for breakfast at [redacted] on a regular basis. [redacted] said she still wanted to go forward with the complaint. **Refer to Exhibit Q-Email message from Melkonians to Sergeant Michel and Exhibit R-Audio tape from Melkonians' cell phone**

[redacted] said she has made a written statement regarding several contacts she has had with Melkonians. **Refer to Exhibit P-Written statement by** [redacted]

[redacted] said she currently has no contact or relationship with Deputy Melkonians.

Melkonians was interviewed on April 16, 2003 regarding this incident. The interview was recorded and summarized as it relates to this case as follows:

> **IAB Note:** Melkonians was told at the beginning of his interview that he would not be questioned regarding the incident where he is alleged to have called LAPD to report a kidnaping in that the incident is under further administrative investigation as part of this case. Melkonians made the following unsolicited statement: "I didn't call in as a kidnaping, but I recall the incident." At this time, the investigation is continuing regarding this incident with LAPD. Audio tapes of the call and dispatch

frequency have been requested to LAPD. On receipt of those tapes, the administrative investigation surrounding that incident will move forward.

During his interview regarding this incident, Melkonians admitted that he had a dating relationship with [redacted] who was a dancer at the [redacted] in West Hollywood. He met her at the [redacted] during a "patrol check" and while on duty as a Deputy Sheriff. The "patrol check" was an "observation," not a call for service. The relationship started sometime in September of 2002.

During this relationship with [redacted] Melkonians acknowledged that he would go to the [redacted] to conduct "routine patrol checks" and while he was there, he would see and visit her. He said he would stay on average about fifteen minutes each time and that he would log the patrol checks. He added that he probably did not log every patrol check that he made at the [redacted] He could not estimate the number of times he made patrol checks at the [redacted] however, he guessed that it was more than ten times and possibly about twenty to twenty-five times. He had gone into the [redacted] a few times before he met [redacted] He denied that he was in the [redacted] almost every night. His dating relationship with [redacted] lasted approximately two to three months.

> **IAB Note:** Later in the interview, Melkonians said that his relationship with Ms. [redacted] ended sometime between October 31st and mid-December, 2002. The relationship was "on again, off again." Melkonians later added that during this time, Ms. [redacted] was also dating [redacted] When it was pointed out that the WCSCR was dated November 15, 2002, and Ms. [redacted] indicated in the complaint that the relationship was over at the time of her complaint, Melkonians denied that the relationship with Ms. [redacted] was over at that time. He said, "We had intimate relations several times after that date. I mean several times after that date!" Melkonians said the relationship lasted "maximum" to December 31, 2002. He then asked if we had a copy of a tape, where she called to apologize for making the complaint. We told him we had a copy of the tape. **(Exhibit R)**

Melkonians said the last time he has been to the [redacted] since being [redacted] was sometime in February, 2003.

Melkonians said that he did not buy Ms. [redacted] a truck. He said he gave her a set of keys and told her that she could drive it. Only his name was on the registration; however, Ms. [redacted] had asked several times to be added onto the registration. Melkonians added that he has never "gifted a car to anyone."

Melkonians related that when he met Ms. [redacted] he told her that he was a real estate agent, however, he did not tell her that he could get her a house. He did not remember if he was on or off duty when he gave her his real estate business card.

IAB Note: When asked if he gave her his card while he was on duty, Melkonians said, "I don't remember. I've thought about this question for a while now and I really can't say with degree of certainty either way whether I was on or off duty when I gave her my real estate card. I don't remember to be honest with you."

Melkonians said that he would occasionally have breakfast with Ms. [redacted] at [redacted] while on duty. He denied that it was on a regular basis, saying it was, "Maybe a couple times of month."

Melkonians said he did not threaten Ms. [redacted], or anyone she was dating, after their relationship ended. He said he did call her cell phone after the relationship ended, to ask for some of his "belongings" back and to get some of her "belongings" out of his home. He added that the cell phone she had was his. He could not remember how many times he called her during and after the break up. Melkonians also said that they had to change Ms. [redacted] cell phone number several times in order to prevent [redacted] from calling.

Melkonians said he did not call Ms. [redacted] and make any of the following statements or anything similar to the following statements: "You're not going to have a job anymore!" "You're not going to have a place to live!" Your mother isn't going to have a place to live!" Your mother isn't going to have a job!"

Melkonians said he is currently dating [redacted] also known as [redacted], who is also a dancer at the [redacted]

[redacted]

Melkonians said he did rent a condo to Ms. [redacted] and her mother, [redacted]

Melkonians said that he has a friend named "[redacted] Melkonians spelled [redacted] last name [redacted] He also said that [redacted] owns a Suburban and they would trade cars on occasion. He added that [redacted] is his "best friend."

IAB Note: A check of Outlook directory indicates Deputy [redacted] is assigned to West Hollywood Station. Regarding Deputy [redacted] later in his interview, Melkonians said that [redacted] thought that Melkonians and [redacted] were "narcs" and were following her and her boyfriend, trying to "pin something on her."

Melkonians said he did not ever wait outside of Ms. [redacted] house to watch her. He added that the condo that Ms. [redacted] rented from him is across from his [redacted] house and he often visited his [redacted] Melkonians was asked if there was ever an occasion where he was parked outside Ms. [redacted] house and she came out and left with him. Melkonians said he knew of one incident where Ms. [redacted] had his truck and drove to [redacted] house on [redacted] It was late in the evening. Melkonians rode over to [redacted] house with [redacted] mother, [redacted] in [redacted] ar. When he arrived, he saw his truck parked in front. [redacted] went to the door and talked to [redacted] According to Melkonians, [redacted] "flipped out" and started cursing her mother. [redacted] asked [redacted] for the keys to the truck. [redacted] retrieved the keys and threw them in the street. Melkonians got his keys and drove his truck home.

Melkonians then related a second incident where he could not remember if [redacted] called him or he called her, but he drove to [redacted] house and [redacted] came out with "her baggage and got in the car, and [I] took her back to my house."

When asked if he had ever called [redacted] Melkonians answered, "One time." He could not recall if it was [redacted] cell phone or home phone. Melkonians denied ever threatening [redacted] He also denied ever telling [redacted] something to the effect, "Stay out of Hollywood!" Melkonians said he did not ever follow [redacted] or have someone follow [redacted] He also said that he did not tell [redacted] something to the effect, "You know what I do right? I'm a Deputy Sheriff, so you should watch what you're doing!"

At this point in the interview, Melkonians said he has had three conversations with [redacted] He only recalled calling him once and did not recall how the other two phone calls were initiated. The one call he remembered making, Melkonians said was made at Ms. [redacted] "urging." Melkonians said the call "was to tell him 'quote' this is per her... that if he didn't stay away from the [redacted] that she would pursue a restraining order against [redacted] I did exactly what she asked me to do. And that's all I told him." Melkonians said that the other two phone calls were "very civil" and more to the effect of "Hey, good luck with you, this is how she is, just take care of her, this is my number if you need to get a hold of me. I thought she loved me, but I guess she loves you, good luck... Hey have her call me once in a while...I won't bother you, you don't bother me." [redacted] then started telling Melkonians, "Hey I know how your brother got murdered." According to Melkonians, [redacted] started telling Melkonians personal things about his (Melkonians') family. When Melkonians asked [redacted] how he knew about his family, [redacted] replied, "Oh, word gets around."

At this point in the interview, Melkonians made the following statement:

> "Now, I will tell you that I've always known that this guy has been arrested for felonies, has threatened to kill different people. I have two police report numbers that I can give you now, that I brought with me. [redacted] brought to my attention that he's been threatening to kill members of her family for several years now since she started dating this guy. So the

impression that I have, this whole time that I was dating [redacted] was this guy is the guy that's causing her all this harm, all this... her family all this misery. He's the bad guy that... the 'Darth Vader' of the relationship, if you will. As soon as something goes wrong with us, 'boom,' she's back with him. As soon as something goes wrong with them, 'bam,' she's back with me. So this is the context in which I was operating. And as far as those conversations go, again, they were peaceful, they were calm, and they were more to the point where, 'Hey, man to man, hey, if she wants you fine, I got no beef with you, you got not beef with me, right?'"

> **IAB Note:** Later in the interview, Melkonians provided the following two report numbers: 102-07191-0813-444 (San Dimas Station) and 0215514 (Corona Police Department). Melkonians told us that the San Dimas report was initiated by [redacted] and he drove her to the Station to file the report. The second report was initiated by [redacted] cousin. Both reports dealt with possible Terrorist Threats involving [redacted] Melkonians felt it was important to provide us with this information about [redacted] He also added that according to Ms. [redacted] had assaulted her in the past. Melkonians never witnessed any assault. IAB investigators did not review the two reports.

Regarding his call to [redacted] to tell him to stay out of the [redacted] Melkonians was asked if the call was in a threatening manner or could have been interpreted as threatening, and he answered, "No." Melkonians was then asked why he didn't just let Ms. [redacted] make the call on her own behalf and he said, "She expressed genuine fear, genuine concern and therefore as her boyfriend and a law enforcement officer, simply relayed a message... [redacted] says quote, if you don't stay away from her and the [redacted] she will pursue a restraining order against you!'" Melkonians admitted that during one of his conversations with [redacted] he told [redacted] that he was going to marry Ms. [redacted]

Regarding the allegation of illegally evicting or locking out Ms. [redacted] Melkonians denied doing this. He added that [redacted] mother [redacted] is the one that changed the locks on the condo.

Melkonians denied ever talking to [redacted] and coaching her on what to tell Internal Affairs Bureau investigators if they called her.

Regarding the rental of his condo to [redacted] Melkonians told us that he did rent to her and to [redacted] There was a lease and both had copies of the lease. He told us the reason that he rented to [redacted] was because [redacted] was "in fear for her life, because [redacted] was going to kill her." [redacted] also told him that [redacted] was abusive to [redacted] in the past. Melkonians said his relationship with [redacted] was "very friendly." He denied evicting [redacted], saying, "No, she moved out on her own, she abandoned the property, never paid rent, I never received a penny of rent in five months." He then said he asked her to leave the condo, because she didn't pay rent and he had another family ready to move in. He did not serve her with an Unlawful Detainer

because she moved out on her own. Melkonians denied telling [redacted] "I don't care if you have to live in your car. You have to be out by Saturday." He did admit that he offered to pay for a moving truck to help her move. The bill for the truck increased from fifty dollars to three hundred and fifty dollars on moving day. Melkonians told [redacted] that was not the original arrangement. Melkonians admitted that he told [redacted] that he would get her a job in his real estate business, however, she never pursued the job. He denied telling [redacted] that she didn't have to pay rent.

Melkonians denied ever telling [redacted] that he had hired people to follow [redacted] He added, however, that [redacted] had asked him to hire people to follow [redacted] Melkonians denied ever saying to [redacted] "He's going down. He's going down big. I can't tell you everything, because I can't get you involved." He further denied ever talking to anyone else in law enforcement about having [redacted] followed.

At this point in the interview, Melkonians made the following statement:

> "I will tell you that I had information from [redacted] that [redacted] is a drug dealer. I passed that information onto Narcotics Bureau." There was no further conversation with the Narcotics Bureau. Melkonians could not remember whom he spoke with at the Narcotics Bureau.

Melkonians denied ever talking to [redacted] and coaching her on what to tell Internal Affairs Bureau investigators if they called her. He then admitted that he told her that he had been [redacted] and "simply told her, no matter what happens, tell the truth." He could not remember if he told her that investigators from Internal Affairs Bureau would be contacting her. Melkonians was then asked, "Who was she supposed to tell the truth to?" and he answered, "Anyone who asked."

Melkonians denied ever having to attend a court proceeding in the past because he had been accused of sitting in front of an ex-girl friend's house.

Incident 4 Continued/Alleged Kidnaping

Additional information was requested to complete this portion of the investigation. After extensive research, it was determined that the "alleged kidnaping incident" occurred during the early morning hours of October 11, 2002. On that morning, at about 0209 hours, Melkonians called West Hollywood Station and spoke with LET [redacted] The call was made to obtain the "law enforcement only" number to LAPD. The following is a transcription of that call:

[redacted]: West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, [redacted] how may I help you?

Melkonians: Hey [redacted] it's Mel. How are you?

[redacted]: Hey, where are you?

Melkonians: Listen, I'm having, I may be having a little incident right now. Do me a favor, give me LAPD's officer only number, please. The Deputy number.

[redacted]: Hold on one moment.

Melkonians: It's a... It will be....

[redacted]: I know...

Melkonians: Hold on, what area is LAPD over by the 101 and Laurel Canyon, what is that? What division is that?

[redacted]: The 101 and Laurel?

Melkonians: Yes.

[redacted]: I don't know, is it San Fernando? I don't know.

Melkonians: You got to find out for me real quick babe, please....

[redacted]: Okay, one moment.

(Sound of dialing) Call to Desk:

Male voice: Desk.

[redacted]: Hi. Two things. Can I talk to [redacted]

Male voice: I am sorry, what?

[redacted]: Is [redacted] right there?

Male voice: Yes.

[redacted]: Can I talk to her please?

Male voice: Sure.

[redacted] Hi.

[redacted]: Can I have that Police LAPD number?

[redacted] [redacted].

[redacted]: Uh huh.

[redacted] [redacted]

[redacted]: That is public.

[redacted] Public, oh you want the, oh, I am sorry, [redacted]

[redacted]: And what is the Laurel Canyon and the 101 freeway, what area LAPD is that?

[redacted] Laurel Canyon and the 101 freeway, that would be North Hollywood.

[redacted]: All right. Thanks. Bye.

[redacted] Bye.

Back to Melkonians:

[redacted]: Hello.

Melkonians: Yes.

[redacted]: Okay you are in North Hollywood and I have the law enforcement only number if you want.

Melkonians: Okay, give it to me babe.

[redacted]: [redacted]

Melkonians: [redacted], okay, I will call you back. Bye.

[redacted]: Allright, bye.

Several requests were made to the Los Angeles Police Department for information on the alleged call of a possible kidnaping on October 11, 2002. On June 6, 2003, I received an audio tape of the call Melkonians made on that date and a computer print out of the dispatched call for service. **For a complete transcription of the call and subsequent radio traffic refer to Exhibit S-Transcription of phone call to LAPD by Melkonians and subsequent LAPD radio traffic and**

Exhibit T- Audio tape of phone call to LAPD by Melkonians and subsequent LAPD radio traffic and Exhibit U-Computer printout of LAPD dispatched call of possible kidnaping

The following is a transcript of the telephone call made by Melkonians to the LAPD dispatch on October 11, 2002, at about 0212 hours, and the radio traffic of the officers who responded to the call:

Dispatcher: Central Bureau, BC (INAUDIBLE) [redacted]

Melkonians: Hi. This is...I'm a Deputy. I work at West Hollywood Station. How are you?

Dispatcher: Good. How are you?

Melkonians: Good. Is this a desk officer or a....?

Dispatcher: No. This is Communications.

Melkonians: Hey, listen. I got a...I may have a little issue going on here. My girlfriend just called me from the area of Laurel Canyon and the 101 freeway.

Dispatcher: Okay.

Melkonians: On Laurel, on Laurel Canyon in the area of the 101.

Dispatcher: Okay.

Melkonians: Her name is [redacted] She said her ex-boyfriend is chasing her and he's acting like a psycho. And he may be armed. I, although I don't know that. I'm just talking about his past practices.

Dispatcher: Okay.

Melkonians: His name is [redacted]. [redacted]

Dispatcher: Now the 101 at Laurel Canyon. What's that name of that freeway at that area? Is that the Ventura or?

Melkonians: No, it's the 101, the 101 freeway. The Ventura's the 101.

Dispatcher: Is that the Ventura up there?

Melkonians: I don't, I don't know what it's called. I think it's the...I think it's the Ventura, yes.

Dispatcher: Yes. And what kind of car is she in?

Melkonians: He should, he should be in like a red....

Dispatcher: No. Her?

Melkonians: She's in a black Buick Bonneville, older model, like '86, '87.

Dispatcher: Okay and him?

Melkonians: I don't know the plates. He's in a red, like a Ford F-150 or...no. You know what it is? It's a, it's a, it's a Chevy 2500. Something like that. It's a pick-up. It's a red one. And no camper shell. He's a White male, about 6'2", bald, goatee, lots of tattoos, ex-convict. Imagine that. And I don't know what he's wearing. I don't even know what she's wearing. She just called me.

IAB Note: During his third interview, Melkonians told investigators that he did not know what [redacted] was driving. He said that [redacted] had only told him that [redacted] drove a "red truck."

Dispatcher: Give me...okay...give me a call back number.

Melkonians: My call back is [redacted]

Dispatcher: Uh-huh (AFFIRMATIVE).

Melkonians: [redacted]

Dispatcher: What's her phone number?

Melkonians: Ah.... I don't have it offhand. See, I think, as a matter of fact, she has a new...we had to change her new, her cell phone number, because he keeps calling.

IAB Note: During Melkonians third interview, he said that he called [redacted] cell phone several times that morning. He also tells LAPD officers at the scene that he has called [redacted] on her cell phone and was disconnected.

Dispatcher: Does she have a restraining order against him?

Melkonians: No. We're working on that. We're working on that. He may be on probation. He's definitely an ex-con. He has a record. And more than likely, he's armed. There's a pend...there's a pending 2735.

IAB Note: [redacted] JDIC Systems, advised that Melkonians had a JDIC user ID issued on April 17, 2002. He used the JDIC system for eight seconds that day and never used it again. His user ID was purged from the system on October 14, 2002.

Dispatcher: Is he...let me ask. Is he on the freeway or....

Melkonians: No. She's on Laurel Canyon in the area of the freeway, on ramp, off ramp.

Dispatcher: Do you know which way she's traveling?

Melkonians: No. That's all...that's the last communication I heard her say...I heard her say...to be honest, I heard her say...fuck you, you son of a bitch. And then, and then she told me he's coming, he's coming. And, and that's, that's the last I heard.

Dispatcher: Hold on a second, okay?

Melkonians: All right.

IAB NOTE: At this point the call is dispatched to an LAPD North Hollywood unit while the dispatcher is still on the phone with Melkonians.

Dispatcher: North Hollywood(INAUDIBLE) 57, domestic violence, Laurel Canyon at the Ventura freeway, and Laurel Canyon at the Ventura freeway at (INAUDIBLE). Suspect in a red Chevrolet 2500 pick-up truck, male White, 6'2", goatee, tattoos. Victim in a black Buick Bonneville, 15H, (INAUDIBLE) incident, 411 and (INAUDIBLE) 1685.

Officer: (INAUDIBLE) Roger.

Dispatcher: Hold on. I'm dispatching officers out there, okay?

Melkonians: Hold on? No problem. I can hold on. I'm, I'm on Laurel Canyon near the area right now. So I mean, I'm not...I don't want to get there without you guys there.

Dispatcher: Yes, I know.

Melkonians: But if it happens, it happens. I mean, I want to get this on record. This is a taped line, right?

Dispatcher: Yes.

Melkonians: No?

Dispatcher: Yes.

Melkonians: Is it taped? Okay. I don't hear any beep, but I just wanted to ask.

Dispatcher: Yes, I know. You can pull the tape on this, but it's not like automatic, like the others.

Melkonians: Just in case something goes down, I just want there to be a, a record of this.

Dispatcher: Yes.

Melkonians: These people are crazy out here right now. (INAUDIBLE). Oh, gosh. Did I tell you that her Bonneville is black? Black Buick Bonneville.

Officer: (INAUDIBLE) Is the PR on the Laurel Canyon call on a cell phone. If so can you get further suspect information.

Dispatcher: Hold on one second, okay?

Melkonians: Okay.

Dispatcher: 15A67. This is second-hand information from West Hollywood Deputy, off duty officer, who is en route to that location. Advised the victim phoned him. The line was disconnected.

IAB Note: Melkonians is faintly heard talking to LAPD officers. He then tells the dispatcher that the officers have arrived and he will talk to them.

Melkonians: I see the officers right here. I'm just...I'm, I'm kind of (INAUDIBLE).

Dispatcher: You flagged them down?

Melkonians: Yes. Hold on. Hey, bro, I'm on your...I'm with your dispatch. I'm a Deputy. I work, I work the Hollywood Station. You guys got the call on the...you know, ma'am...I'll talk to the officers.

Dispatcher: Great. Uh-huh (AFFIRMATIVE).

Melkonians: Thank you, ma'am.

Dispatcher: Bye bye. You're welcome.

Melkonians: Thank you, ma'am. Thank you.

IAB Note: At this point, the telephone call with the LAPD dispatcher has ended. The remainder of the audio is of the radio call to LAPD officers and radio traffic between the responding units. Much of the audio is inaudible. The following is an edited transcription of the call and radio traffic as it pertains to this case. Unrelated dispatched calls were deleted. **For a complete transcription of the call and subsequent radio traffic refer to Exhibit S**

Officer: Have a unit respond to Havenhurst and [redacted] A possible domestic violence. Suspect and victim are going to be at that location right now.

Dispatcher2: (INAUDIBLE) and 67. Roger on the Van Nuys unit. What is your current location for the RA request?

Officer: The...Laurel Canyon and Riverside.

Dispatcher2: 6A67 [redacted] Laurel Canyon and Riverside. Roger on RA.

Officer: 59A...67. Advise the Van Nuys unit that it could be a possible kidnap in progress. Our, our PR just had the victim on the phone. And I believe the suspect is trying to get her into his car right now.

IAB Note: In the following radio traffic, the dispatcher is attempting to get a Van Nuys unit to respond to the call, however, one is not available. Additionally, they are unsure if the location of the kidnap is Havenhurst or Hazelhurst, so they are attempting to send units to both locations. They later send a unit to Hazeltine. Due to a lack of units, the dispatcher has to send a North Hollywood unit to Van Nuys area. Eventually, Van Nuys units are able to respond and arrive at the correct location, Havenhurst and Burbank.

Officer#2: (INAUDIBLE) [redacted]

Dispatcher2: Any available Van Nuys unit, respond to Havenhurst and Burbank on a domestic violence, possible child kidnap involved. Havenhurst and Burbank. Stand by for creation of incident. Continuing. Any Van Nuys unit. Incident 444, [redacted]

Officer: 59A 67. Could you also have a unit respond to Hazelhurst and Burbank. Yes. Havenhurst and Burbank.

Dispatcher: 9A23, 9A23. Have you arrived?

Officer: We are not sure which street the unit responding's location.

Dispatcher: 6A67. Roger. Stand by.

Dispatcher: Van Nuys unit available to handle a [redacted] call. Identify.

Male: (INAUDIBLE) 43. If you're not getting a Van Nuys unit to respond, you want to (INAUDIBLE) for that kidnaping in progress.

Dispatcher2: 6A50, correction 15A43. Stand by.

Dispatcher: (INAUDIBLE) I Roger. Respond. [redacted]

Dispatcher: 15A43. Roger. Respond. [redacted] to Havenhurst and Burbank, or Hazelhurst and Burbank.

Dispatcher: Response. 9A35 is responding.

Dispatcher2: 15A43 is responding. [redacted] to Havenhurst and Burbank.

Male: That's going to be Hazeltine. Not Hazelhurst. Hazeltine and Burbank. And Havenhurst and Burbank.

Dispatcher2: 15A43 on correction. Hazeltine and Burbank, or Hazel, or Havenhurst and Burbank.

Officer: Roger. Responding. [redacted]

Dispatcher: 15A43. Cancel the [redacted] response. Van Nuys unit en route. [redacted]

Officer: 15A43. Roger.

Dispatcher2: Roger. Cancel your response all together.

Officer: (INAUDIBLE) send me the call.

Dispatcher2: 9A359A35, cancel Incident 444. 9A79 will handle.

Dispatcher3: 15L60. Repeat only on which call.

Dispatcher: 9A79, 9A79, Roger. 9A79 respond. [redacted]

Dispatcher2: 15L60. Stand by. Excuse me. 6A50 (INAUDIBLE). Is there a message?

Officer: 67. Just to verify you have a unit responding, [redacted], one to Hazeltine and Burbank and one to Havenhurst and Burbank.

Dispatcher2: Roger.

Officer: 67, just advise the Van Nuys unit the PR keeps trying to contact the victim on the phone. The suspect keeps hanging up the phone.

Dispatcher2: Roger. 9A75. Correction. 9A79 and 9A35. Additional on the kidnap in progress. Suspect is a male White. Suspect vehicle's a red Chevrolet pick-up 2500. Suspect is attempting to force victim inside the vehicle. Requesting a unit to respond to Havenhurst and Burbank, and Hazelhurst and Burbank. Van Nuys units responding to the call at Havenhurst and Burbank and Hazelhurst and Burbank. The call is a kidnap in progress. Incident 444.

Male#2: 15 Adam67. There's additional information on kidnap. Suspect is a male White, DOB of [redacted] last name of [redacted]

Dispatcher: 9A37, are you [redacted] on Havenhurst and Burbank or Hazelhurst and Burbank?

Male#2: ...phonetically spelled [redacted] First name of [redacted]

Officer: Roger it's going to be Havenhurst and Burbank.

Male#2: He's approximately 32 to 40 old.

Dispatcher: 9A37 (INAUDIBLE) [redacted] on Havenhurst and Burbank..

Male#2: He has a tattoo about the elbow...

Dispatcher: (INAUDIBLE) 27, (INAUDIBLE) no longer hears the vehicle.

Male#2: ...has a goatee. The vehicle is a red Chevy pick-up. Year, model, KMA.

Dispatcher2: Van Nuys units responding to the....

Male#2: Additional on the vehicle is either 1500 or 2500.

Dispatcher2: 15-Neil-1[redacted] Irvine and Vanowen. 9A79, units responding to the kidnap in progress. Suspect's a male White, 6'2", 240, shaved head, DOB of [redacted], last name of [redacted] first of [redacted] With a tattoo above the elbow, and a goatee. Suspect vehicle's a red Chevy truck, possible 1500 or 2500 series. Show additional incident

444 and RD961.

Officer: 9A79. We're [redacted], on Havenhurst and Burbank. No evidence of kidnap. Can you verify the address?

Dispatcher: 9A79. Roger. We need one unit to respond to Havenhurst and Burbank, and one to respond to Hazelhurst and Burbank.

Male: We have an additional. The suspect lives at [redacted] .....

Dispatcher: The victim is not exactly sure where she's at.

9A37: 9-Adam-37. With that vehicle, the license plate is going to be [redacted]

Dispatcher: 9A37 is [redacted] with the suspect vehicle. The license is [redacted] 9A37 is [redacted] with the vehicle from Havenhurst and...correction. Havenhurst and Burbank. License is [redacted]

Officer: 9A35,Do you still have the PR on the phone.

Dispatcher: 9A35, no.

Dispatcher2: 9A35, 15A27 is with a PR.

Officer: Where...9A35...where is that unit?

Dispatcher2: 15A67 and 9A35 switch to Valley Bureau [redacted], [redacted]

Officer: Roger. Going to the golf courses at Woodley. Correction. This is the Balboa Golf Course on the east side of the parking lot on Burbank, east of Havenhurst.

Dispatcher: 9A58, repeat your request for Balboa Golf Course, east side of parking lot on Burbank east of Havenhurst. 9A58, come in.

9A58: 9A58. Go ahead.

Dispatcher: 9A58, verify your [redacted] at Balboa Golf Course, east side of parking lot, Burbank east of Havenhurst.

9A58: We're on Burbank east of Havenhurst on the north side of the street.

Dispatcher: Roger.

Officer: Adam-35. Can you get that North Hollywood unit back on the [redacted] was unable to read him.

Dispatcher: Stand by. 15-A-27, switch to Valley Bureau [redacted] for 9A35.

9A35: (INAUDIBLE). Go for 9A35.

Officer: Hey, what have you guys got over there? I got the PR over here. He's an off duty Sheriff, I guess he's her new boyfriend, and he's the one that was giving us all this info. You guys talk to the victim over there?

9A35: We've got the red Chevy here, and we're just now taking it into custody. Verify our PR is a male.

Officer: Yes. The PR is here. That's our victim's boyfriend. She was calling him on the cell phone, saying that this guy was following her. He flagged us down, basically, and we got a radio call. He responded to our location. Flagged us down. He called her back, and he kept grabbing the phone from her. Apparently. So we're under the impression that she was possibly kidnaped.

9A35: Roger that. Do me a favor. Just stay on this Tac for a minute or two while we talk to them.

Officer: Roger. Do you have the victim? Is there a female there? Because we keep trying to get a-hold of her on the cell phone. And we can't get a-hold of her right now. Do you have two people there or just one?

9A35: We got two. We got a male White, bald, thin goatee, and a female about 5 foot 6, with medium length straight brown hair.

Officer: Roger. Are they in the same vehicle?

9A35: Roger. The female was actually driving the truck.

Officer: Roger. Apparently he probably kidnaped her then because they weren't in...they were in two separate vehicles when we got the call.

9A35: 9A35, Roger. Do me a favor and stand by for a minute. 9A35 to North Hollywood unit.

Officer: 16-Adam-67, go.

9A35: 9A35. We don't' have a kidnap. She claims to be here on her own. Apparently there was an argument with the ex. And she called the current guy she's dating, the Deputy you're with. Saying to pick her up. This guy shows up. Yells at her to get in his car. But she is not here against her will. And we do not have a kidnap.

Officer: Roger. We could have the PR respond up there. Do we have any domestic violence to report that you can see?

9A35: Negative. We got no report. And if he wants to respond, he can do so. He doesn't need to. Are you standing right next to him right now?

Officer: Roger.

9A35: Okay. Apparently she doesn't want a conflict between the two guys. But there is no crime.

Officer: Okay. So.... I'm stepping away right now. If you need to talk to me.

9A35: Okay. She's telling us that the ex-boyfriend doesn't know that she's dating a cop. And that might be an issue. But she says she is here on her own free will.

Officer: Okay. So what does she want me to tell the boyfriend? Just to go home?

9A35: Pound sand and have a nice evening.

Officer: All right. I'll tell him. I'll tell him that. Thanks a lot, you guys.

9A35: Roger. Thanks. (INAUDIBLE).

IAB Note: At the conclusion of this incident, Melkonians made a second phone call to West Hollywood Station and again spoke with LET [redacted] The following is a transcription of that phone call:

[redacted]**:** West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, [redacted] how may I help you?

Melkonians: He[redacted] it's Mel, I'm okay. Everything is okay.

[redacted]**:** What happened?

Melkonians: It's no big deal, just, it's just drama from the ex boyfriend.

[redacted]**:** Uh huh.

Melkonians: Remember the girl I'm dating, [redacted]

[redacted]: Yeah, yeah.

Melkonians: My girl, she, she, she called me and she was like, I am like, "Are you okay?" and she is like, "No", I am like, "Where are you at?" she goes, "Where are you at?" I am like, "I am in Hollywood" and she goes, "He's chasing me right now" or something, "I'm down the street" she said, "He's behind me or something". I can't remember the words she said, I am like, "What do you mean, where are you at?" she is like, "I am at Laurel Canyon on the freeway, 101 freeway" then all of a sudden she pulls away and she screams at him, "Fuck you, you asshole, get away from me" or something like that.

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: And then the phone, the phone goes dead.

[redacted] Really?

Melkonians: And then I'm like calling, calling, no answer, no answer. So I get LAPD rolling. I called you, got the number.

[redacted] Right.

Melkonians: Got LAPD rolling, you know, cause you know, even though it could be nothing but it could be something, you know what I mean.

[redacted] Exactly, better safe than sorry.

Melkonians: I am not going over there by myself and get in trouble, you know what I mean?

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: You got to, you can't do that, you just can't get too emotionally involved, so, I just, I went over there. I met... I flagged down the officers. I kind of met them right near the area.

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: I told him everything and then all of a sudden, I am trying to call her the whole time and she is not picking up the phone and all of a sudden I thought I heard him pick up and hang up. The ex boyfriend.

[redacted] Really?

Melkonians: And then they upgraded it to a possible [redacted] now.

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: Obviously, you know?

[redacted] Right, right, right.

Melkonians: Kidnaping or whatever, because she won't answer her phone and then all of a sudden I get through and said, "Where are you at? Are you okay?" and she is like crying and she goes, "I'm at Burbank and Havenhurst" and she starts saying the next phrase and the phone went dead again. So, I am talking to the Handling Unit.

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: So he dispatches cars to... from Van Nuys Station.

[redacted] Right.

Melkonians: Or whatever Station it was, to that location. They detain him. Cause he's got... apparently he's got a history of beating on her or something.

[redacted] Really?

Melkonians: Yes. They detained him, I think they did a felony stop or whatever. He's got guns and stuff. He's a big boy.

[redacted] Did he have, he had guns?

Melkonians: No, I mean he owns a lot of guns.

[redacted] Oh.

Melkonians: He's kind of a freak that way.

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: So anyway, they detained him and it's Code 4. I... she went I guess to her Mom's house.

[redacted] Have you seen her?

Melkonians: No, I'm waiting for her to call. She's probably still talking to the Officers still there.

[redacted] Wow.

Melkonians: We're on a taped line right.

[redacted] Yes.

Melkonians: I mean all this is going on tape correct?

[redacted] Correct.

Melkonians: Okay cool. All right, I don't think I need to make any notif.... Sergeant notifications at all, because nothing really happened.

[redacted] Uh huh.

Melkonians: Just... Just... I just want to make sure it was a taped line, okay?

[redacted] Yes, you are totally on a tape line. Do you want to talk to the Sergeant?

Melkonians: Oh no, no, no, no, as a matter of fact, let's keep it [redacted] for now.

[redacted] Okay.

Melkonians: For now until I talk to (unintelligible). I will call (unintelligible) tomorrow and find out what he thinks I should do.

[redacted] Right, right, right.

Melkonians: So it's all [redacted] for now, though. You didn't tell anybody yet did you?

[redacted] No, I haven't even lifted from this chair. I was trying to go back to sleep this whole time.

Melkonians: Oh God, don't say that on a taped line, of course you don't sleep on duty, you never sleep....

[redacted] That's why I am trying, because I can't do it.

Melkonians: How funny. Thank you so much for giving me that number to LAPD.

[redacted] No problem. I am glad everything worked out okay. I hope she is okay.

Melkonians: Yes, I think she is fine. It's all good. Thank you so much [redacted]

[redacted] Okay, you have a good night.

Melkonians: I will see you tomorrow, okay.

[redacted] Okay.

Melkonians: Bye.

[redacted] Bye.

Follow-up Interviews related specifically to the alleged kidnap incident:

During her first interview with IAB investigators, [redacted] told investigators that she did not call Melkonians. She called her mother, [redacted] thought that her mother called Melkonians and he in turn called [redacted]

Due to this discrepancy, I re-interviewed [redacted] on June 9, 2003. The interview was conducted telephonically and recorded. During the interview, Ms. [redacted] told me that she could not remember if she called Melkonians on the night of the stop by LAPD. She said, "I know for a fact, I called my mother." I advised [redacted] that her mother told me that she [redacted] did not call her mother that night. [redacted] then admitted that although she can't remember if she called Melkonians that night, she did in fact speak to Melkonians that night. During the conversation with Melkonians, he asked [redacted] what was going on, because he could tell that she was upset. She told him that she had gotten into an argument with [redacted] She told him that she was walking on Laurel Canyon. She did not ask Melkonians to pick her up. At some point, while talking to Melkonians she got mad at him (Melkonians) and she hung up the phone. Melkonians called her back several times and she told him not to call anymore. She again hung up the phone. [redacted] denied telling Melkonians on the phone that [redacted] was acting like a "psycho." [redacted] denied telling any LAPD officers that she had called Melkonians that night.

On June 12, 2003, I re-interviewed [redacted]. The interview was conducted telephonically and recorded. During the interview, [redacted] told me that she recalled the incident of the alleged kidnaping of her daughter, [redacted] When specifically asked if [redacted] had called her on that night, [redacted] said, "No." She added that she would recall something as significant as that.

Melkonians was scheduled to be interviewed regarding this incident on June 18, 2003. On June 12, 2003, Melkonians' interview was cancelled by Green and Shinee and rescheduled for June 25, 2003.

On June 25, 2003, **Melkonians** was interviewed at the Internal Affairs Bureau by Sergeants William Hines and Elier Morejon. Also present during the interview was Helen Schwab from Green and Shinee. Melkonians was interviewed specifically regarding the call he made to LAPD to allegedly report the kidnaping of [redacted] by [redacted] The interview was tape recorded and summarized as follows:

Melkonians told IAB investigators that he recalled the incident that occurred on October 11, 2002, involving [redacted] He related that [redacted] called him that morning.

> **IAB Note:** Several days prior to this interview, Melkonians was asked to bring in copies of his cell phone records to prove/disprove who called who first that morning. Melkonians told investigators that he did not have the records at this time and would have them by Monday, June 30, 2003. On July 7, 2003, at 1730 hours, I had not received any phone records from Melkonians.

At the time he received the call, Melkonians said he was off-duty in West Hollywood in the area of Sunset and Crescent Heights. Melkonians could not recall exactly what he was doing, but said he was possibly with a friend and possibly "going to a club or some function." [redacted] said that she was "in trouble with [redacted]" She was "apparently walking somewhere in the area of Laurel Canyon and he [redacted] was apparently driving or in a car behind her, somehow either chasing her or somehow bothering her." Melkonians kept asking [redacted] if she needed the police and the phone "got disconnected a few times." Melkonians said he "tried to call her back. She'd talk for a brief second or two, I would hear something, and then she would call me back. I think she called back again. Or maybe I just called after the initial call, I'm not sure. Definitely in my mind she had a problem and she needed my help."

Melkonians went on to say that at that point, he called West Hollywood Station and spoke with [redacted] He asked for the "non public police number" to LAPD. He said he did this because he knew "how long it is to wait for LAPD on the phone." He then called that number from his cell phone. Melkonians did not recall the exact words he used, but he basically told the LAPD dispatcher that his girlfriend was in trouble. Melkonians told LAPD that he was "off-duty" and driving up Laurel Canyon. He gave LAPD the approximate location of [redacted] based on what [redacted] had told him. Eventually, he saw an LAPD unit and flagged it down. He advised the officers what he thought was going on with [redacted] While talking to LAPD officers, Melkonians attempted to call [redacted] several times, and he heard "something threatening, not nice, coercive, however you want to call it, then the phone went dead." After that, he couldn't get through on the cell phone to [redacted]

At this point, Melkonians discussed with the officers "the possibility whether or not he thought this could be a kidnaping." Melkonians said he thought he said to the officers, "Possible kidnaping,

based on what she [redacted] had told him about [redacted] background, being a drug dealer, having assaulted her, having beaten her up several times" and having recently tried to kill her. Based on the facts of [redacted] "violent background" and the fact that Melkonians thought that [redacted] was his girlfriend, he discussed with the officers the possibility that the situation was a kidnaping in progress. Based on this information, the officers then upgraded the call to a kidnaping.

Melkonians then waited with the officers until he heard that they had found [redacted] and [redacted] and detained them at gunpoint. [redacted] told the officers that she was okay and did not want to talk about the situation. She told the officers that she was going to go home with [redacted]. Melkonians said that this was a "surprise" to him.

Melkonians reiterated that based on his phone call with [redacted] that morning, he felt that this was "a very, very serious incident."

Melkonians could not recall if [redacted] had asked him to pick her up that morning.

Melkonians was asked if an option that morning would have simply had [redacted] call 911 herself. He responded, "I'm not going to speculate on what she could have done." He did not advise her to call 911, because he "didn't have a chance."

Melkonians admitted that he later told [redacted] that he had called the police that morning. He said, "I told her the truth about my actions."

Melkonians adamantly denied that he was following [redacted] and [redacted] the morning of the incident.

Melkonians was asked why he called West Hollywood Station to obtain LAPD's "law enforcement only" number instead of just calling 911 direct if he was seriously concerned about [redacted] safety that morning. Melkonians said, "Because I know as a law enforcement officer, that when you dial 911 to CHP, that you're on hold for a while.

IAB Note: Helen Schwab interjected, "On a cell phone to CHP."

Melkonians continued, "On a cell phone especially. Not only that, but I knew that I could more expeditiously get a hold of help the way that I did it, based on my experience, practical hands on experience. I knew that was the most expeditious way to do this. To get help to her." He added, "Not only that, I wanted it on record, what I was doing, for obvious reasons."

IAB Note: The call to LET [redacted] at West Hollywood Station lasted one minute and forty-four seconds.

When asked if he recalled telling LAPD that [redacted] was an ex-con, Melkonians said, "I remember telling LAPD that [redacted] told me that [redacted] was an ex-con." When asked if he recalled telling

LAPD that [redacted] carries a gun, Melkonians said, "I remember telling LAPD that [redacted] told me that he does carry a gun."

> **IAB Note:** In the call to LAPD, Melkonians stated, "... He's a White male, about 6'2", bald, goatee, lots of tattoos, ex-convict. Imagine that." Later in the call, when asked if there was a restraining order, Melkonians said, "No. We're working on that. We're working on that. He may be on probation. He's definitely an ex-con. He has a record. And more than likely, he's armed."

Melkonians could not recall if he called West Hollywood Station a second time to advise LET [redacted] the outcome of the incident.

> **IAB Note:** Melkonians did in fact call LET [redacted] a second time and spoke to her for three minutes and forty-two seconds and explained to her what happened during the incident.

Melkonians was asked why he asked LET [redacted] at West Hollywood Station if his call was being recorded. Melkonians said, "Because I know that [redacted] lies. I know that... I wanted to protect myself. I wanted to protect myself in case something went wrong, and obviously it did. So, I wanted to have proof on a recorded line what I was doing was exactly what I was doing."

In line with Melkonians' reasoning of wanting to protect himself by ensuring that his call was on a recorded line, he was asked why he didn't report this incident to the West Hollywood Station Watch Sergeant or Watch Commander as well. Melkonians answered, "There is a reason. I didn't feel as though I was involved in an off-duty incident that involved me. I was a reporting party. I was a witness. I was a informant, however, you want to call it. I didn't think there really required a sergeant to be on board. And I thought to myself, best evidence obviously is a recorded line. For whatever reason, that's what I did."

Regarding the fact that on this morning, Melkonians drove to the area of Laurel Canyon and the 101 freeway to meet the LAPD officers, Melkonians said he did this because, "I went to the location because this was my girlfriend that was involved. Before this date, I really did not have any notion that she was still, you know, playing us back and forth to this extent. I knew she was still talking to him, but I cared for her, I went there, I wanted to give directive information to LAPD. I told them I was off-duty that I would help to look for the vehicle... to help look for my girlfriend, as would anyone concerned for the safety of their girlfriend, I believe."

When Melkonians was told that [redacted] told investigators that he called LAPD because he was mad at her for being on a date with [redacted] Melkonians replied, "Well, [redacted] lying! [redacted] is a liar!" Melkonians was then told that [redacted] told investigators that she never told Melkonians that she was in any trouble that morning and Melkonians stated, "She's lying, sir! She's lying about that!" Melkonians was then told that [redacted] told investigators that she felt that Melkonians "blew up this

whole situation just to get even with [redacted]" Melkonians stated, "She's lying!" Melkonians was also told that [redacted] told investigators that she never had a conversation with him that night indicating that she was ever in any danger and that in fact she just kept hanging up on him and he kept calling her back. Melkonians said, "That is not accurate. She led me to believe she was in serious, if not grave danger."

The interview was concluded at this point.

This case was submitted June 30, 2003.

ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION

Regarding Incident #2 (Ride-along), further investigation was conducted in an effort to determine the time that the Ride-along, [redacted] was in Melkonians' patrol car. His DDWS indicated that at 2133 hours, he handled a call, Tag 185, at [redacted] in West Hollywood. The call was regarding a lost cell phone and the informant was [redacted] I talked to [redacted] on July 30, 2003, and he related that he could not recall if there was anyone with the deputy that came to his house that evening. The call was cleared at 2210 hours.

At 2221 hours, Melkonians received a call, Tag 195, at [redacted] in West Hollywood regarding "retrieval of property." Melkonians acknowledged the call at 2228 hours, and arrived at 2240 hours. On July 25, 2003, I spoke with the informant of the call, Mr. [redacted] and he said that he related the call and the deputy that arrived to handle the call. Mr. [redacted] said that he did not recall the name of the deputy, however, he did remember that a female was with the deputy when the deputy arrived. He did not know the name of the female, but he did recall that she walked up to the door with the deputy. Mr. [redacted] said, "I don't know if it was his girlfriend or his sister..." Mr. [redacted] added that he recalled that "they were close in some way."

IAB NOTE of *REVISED* TIME LINE OF INCIDENT (Compiled from MDT messages, Melkonians' DDWS and interview statements):

1800 hrs.	Melkonians starts his shift
1935 hrs.	Melkonians sends an MDT message to 97E, Deputy Hector Mancinas, "Like that...."
1935 hrs.	Deputy Mancinas typed back, "Nice....."

IAB Note: It was unknown what these two messages were in reference to. Due to the fact that they possibly were in reference to Melkonians' ride along and in an effort to determine the time that [redacted] entered Melkonians' patrol car, I interviewed Deputy Mancinas on June 12, 2003. Deputy Mancinas said that he could

not recall these two MDT messages.

	Around 2000 hrs.	According to Lt. Pattullo, an anonymous deputy advised her that Melkonians had a female passenger in his patrol car
	Around 2100 hrs.	Lt. Pattullo asked Sgt. Velazquez if she had knowledge of Melkonians' ride-along and Sgt. Velazquez did not.
	2124 hrs.	Melkonians sent MDT message asking Sgt. Velazquez if he could have a ride-along. He said the ride-along was "coming in at 10, couple hours only."
	2126 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez replied asking, "Tonight?"
	2137 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Yes Maam.... Just a couple of hours."
	2139 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez replied, "Stop by,,, I need him to fill out the waiver."
	2140 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Already done.... I'll drop it by." Then added, "It's a her by the way."
Revised-	**2240 hrs.**	**According to [redacted](Tag 195), a female was with Melkonians at this time.**
	2249 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "Mel... Do u have that waiver...."
	2251 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Enr w/it now Maam."
	2305:19 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "Plz [redacted].... asap....thank u"
	2305:44 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Maybe [redacted].. I'll be right there w/paper..."
	2305:54 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to 90S, "Can U plz find Mel and tell him to [redacted]... He has not dropped off waiver.... Thanks"
	2306:10 hrs.	Sgt. Velazquez sent an MDT message to Melkonians, "Neg....Lt. is waiting"

2306:30 hrs.	Melkonians replied, "Copy"
2341 hrs.	Melkonians received call of [redacted] (During his interview, Melkonians admitted that [redacted] was in his patrol car at the time he received this call)
2353 hrs.	Melkonians arrived at the location of [redacted]
0005 hrs.	Melkonians booked Suspect Pilgrim and submitted ride-along waiver to Sgt. Velazquez. Ms. [redacted] ended her ride and left the Station



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles

Sheriff's Department Headquarters

4700 Ramona Boulevard

Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



August 6, 2003

Deputy Ara Melkonians, #[redacted]

[redacted]

Deputy Melkonians:

You are hereby notified that it is the intention of the Sheriff's Department to discharge you from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department, effective at the close of business on August 27, 2003.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2077453, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards; and/or 3-01/030.15, Conduct Toward Others; and/or 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (*specifically as it relates to Manual Section 5-09/030.00, Domestic Violence*), on or about August 9, 2002, you responded to a domestic violence call and pointed an M-26 taser (which looks similar to a pistol and displays a red laser aiming point) at the suspect and then engaged him in a conversation. The suspect had left the scene prior to your arrival and there was evidence of an attempted burglary and the victim stated she was afraid for her safety. While you were still at the location, the suspect ([redacted] returned to the parking area below the balcony. You did not complete a written report documenting the attempted burglary, nor did you document a non-criminal domestic violence incident report as required by policy.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards; and/or 3-01/030.15, Conduct Toward Others; and/or 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (*specifically as it relates to Manual Section 5-09/250.00, Ride Along Program and/or West Hollywood Station Order #28, Ride Along Observers*), on or about September 12, 2002, while on duty, you had a female ride along observer in your patrol car, without receiving prior approval from the Watch Commander and/or without processing a background check and/or the required waivers and/or indemnity agreement. After being requested to "immediately" respond to the station to complete these civil requirements, you arrived nearly three hours later and/or referred to your supervisor as being, "petty" about requiring prior approval.

3. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards; and/or 3-01/050.05, Performance of Duty; and/or 3-01/100.35, False Information in Records, on or about November 14, 2002, you were thought to be at the scene of a call for service and were needed by Lieutenant Pattullo to return to the station to complete an administrative task, but after numerous attempts to contact you were met with negative results, a deputy was dispatched to check the area for you. Although the computer indicated you were at the scene of a call for service, it was discovered that you were actually in a local restaurant having breakfast. When questioned why you did not respond to the voice commands on your portable radio, you stated that your radio was low. As a result, it was necessary for another deputy to enter the restaurant to personally ask you to see the Watch Commander.

   Lieutenant Pattullo later discovered that you never actually responded to the call for service and apparently called the informant and asked him if it was still necessary for you to respond. You indicated to the informant that you were delayed on another call. The informant reported that he told you the disturbance was now over and that a response was no longer necessary.

   Your Deputy Daily Work Sheet (DDWS) erroneously reflected that you arrived at the scene of the disturbance call at 0406 hours and were at the location until 0519 hours. This was not true and you

never modified your DDWS to correct the false and/or inaccurate information, resulting in your DDWS and/or Unit Log reporting false data.

4. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation, on or about October 11, 2002, you called the Los Angeles Police Department and falsely reported that [redacted] was in danger from her ex-boyfriend, [redacted] and/or that Mr. [redacted] was an ex-con, was heavily tattooed, had assaulted and/or threatened to kill the victim previously and/or was known to be armed; and/or you did not provide the victim's cell phone number; and/or stated you did not have the victim's cell phone number when asked by the LAPD dispatcher.

5. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.05, General Behavior and/or 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards, between August and December of 2002, based upon the totality of the circumstances contained in charges one (1) through four (4) herein, you have demonstrated that your actions and/or behavior, privately and/or officially, have brought discredit upon yourself and/or the Sheriff's Department when you failed to conform with the provisions of the Manual of Policy and Procedures, as evidenced by but not limited to:

    a) failing to document an attempted burglary/domestic violence incident by completing a written report as required by policy and/or additionally pointing the M-26 taser device at a non-threatening suspect, using the device to intimidate in violation of policies governing its use, and/or;

    b) having a female ride along observer in your patrol car, while on duty and/or without obtaining prior approval from the Watch Commander and/or without processing the required "Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage Waiver and/or Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement;" and/or even after being requested to immediately respond to the station to complete these civil requirements, arriving nearly three hours later and/or referring to your supervisors as being "petty"

about requiring prior approval, and/or;

c) documenting on your MDT computer terminal that you were at the scene of a disturbance call, while you were actually at a nearby restaurant having breakfast. The records documented by the completion of the Deputy Daily Worksheet and/or Unit log are official Department records and are subject to subpoena by court officers. By not correcting your log and/or worksheet, you have falsified official records, and/or;

d) calling the Los Angeles Police Department and falsely reporting that [redacted] was in danger from her ex-boyfriend, [redacted] and/or Mr. [redacted] was an ex-con, was heavily tattooed, had assaulted and/or threatened to kill the victim previously and/or was known to be armed; and/or not providing the victim's cell phone number; and/or stating you did not have the victim's cell phone number when asked by the LAPD dispatcher. These actions resulted in multiple LAPD units responding Code 3 and in [redacted] and [redacted] being stopped, detained and extracted from their vehicle at gunpoint prior to being handcuffed by the LAPD officers.

You may respond to the intended action orally or in writing. In the event that you choose to respond orally to these charges, you have already been scheduled to meet with Chief Michael Nagaoka on August 26, 2003, at 1300 hours, in his office, which is located at Sheriff's Headquarters Building, 4700 Ramona Boulevard, Monterey Park, on the 4th Floor. If you are unable to appear at the scheduled time and wish to schedule some other time prior to August 26, 2003, for your oral response, please call Chief Nagaoka's secretary at [redacted] for an appointment.

If you choose to respond in writing, please call Chief Nagaoka's secretary to cancel your scheduled appointment, and send your response to the facts contained in this letter to Chief Nagaoka's office by no later than August 26, 2003.

Unless you are currently on some other type of authorized leave, pursuant to Rule 16.01 of the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission Rules, effective immediately, you are on paid

administrative leave which will continue during the fifteen (15) business days you have to respond to the intended discharge or until the conclusion of your pre-disciplinary hearing. If you are presently on an authorized leave, that leave will continue during the fifteen (15) business days you have to respond to the intended discharge, or until the conclusion of your pre-disciplinary hearing.

Failure to respond to this Letter of Intent within fifteen (15) business days will be considered a waiver of your right to respond and will result in the imposition of the discipline indicated herein.

If you did not receive the investigative material on which your discipline is based at the time you were served with this correspondence, you may contact the Internal Affairs Bureau at (323) 890-5300, to obtain a copy of the case file.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

Rickey D. Jennings

Rickey D. Jennings, A/Captain
Commander, Internal Affairs Bureau

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures.

RD:lh

c: Advocacy Unit
Employee Relations Unit
Chief Michael Nagaoka, FORII
Internal Affairs Bureau
Office of Independent Review (OIR)
(File #2077453)

In the Matter of the Appeal of)
)
Ara Melkonians, Employee No. 295076)
)
and Los Angeles County Sheriff's)
)
Department)

CSC Case Number: 03-335

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This Agreement is entered into between the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (hereinafter referred to as "Department") and Deputy Ara Melkonians, Employee Number [redacted] (hereinafter referred to as "Deputy Melkonians").

RECITALS

The Department and Deputy Melkonians are parties in the above-referenced matter both desire to resolve all disputes arising therein and to avoid litigation and to settle all disputes and issues upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth.

NOW THEREFORE, the Department and Deputy Melkonians for and in consideration of the mutual covenants herein, agree as follow:

1. Upon execution of this Agreement, the Department shall reduce the discharge imposed in this action to a thirty (30) day suspension, which Deputy Melkonians accepts without appeal.

2. The charges in the final letter of discipline dated August 28, 2003 will be revised as set forth in the August 28, 2003 letter of suspension attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

3. The revised August 28, 2003 letter of suspension will further reflect Deputy Melkonians is suspended effective August 28, 2003 through September 26, 2003, with no break in service.

4. The Department agrees to reimburse Deputy Melkonians in back pay for eight (8) months, pursuant to County Code and applicable collective bargaining agreements.

(Within ten (10) days of the execution of this Agreement, Deputy Melkonians will provide the Department with a Declaration of Outside Employment.) Further, Deputy Melkonians will, as of the effective date of the full execution of this Agreement, be restored to full salary and employment status as a Deputy Sheriff, item No. 2708A, with the Sheriff's Department.

5. Both parties agree and understand that Deputy Melkonians' record will reflect that a thirty (30) day suspension was imposed.

6. Deputy Melkonians, upon execution of this Agreement, shall waive any and all further administrative or judicial remedies with respect to the discipline as stated herein, including but not limited to the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission or the Los Angeles County Employee Relations Commission.

7. The parties further agree that this settlement shall not be considered, cited or used in any future dispute between the Department and any other department employee as establishing precedent or past employment practice. This Agreement resolves the dispute between Deputy Melkonians, and is not to be applied to any other facts or disputes.

8. In consideration of the terms and conditions set forth herein, Deputy Melkonians agrees to fully release, acquit and forever discharge the County, their heirs, successors, assigns, and legal representatives from any and all liability whatsoever for any and all claims arising out of or connected with the employment relationship between the County and Deputy Melkonians concerning the subject matter referred to herein. Additionally, Deputy Melkonians specifically acknowledges that he has not been the subject of discrimination in any form, including but not limited to discrimination based upon age, race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status or sex, and that he has no claim against the Department for any such discrimination, whether any such claim is presently known or not known to him, concerning the subject matter referred to herein.

9. Deputy Melkonians further agrees, with regard to this litigation, to relinquish and expressly waives all rights conferred upon his by the provisions of California Civil Code Section 1542, which reads as follows:

> **"A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him must have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."**

10. The parties agree that this Agreement may be specifically enforced in court and may be used as evidence in a subsequent proceeding in which any of the parties allege a breach of this Agreement.

11. The parties agree that this is the complete settlement agreement and that no other promises have been made by either party. The parties further agree that no changes may be made to this settlement agreement unless both parties reduce the changes to writing and sign them. The "date of execution" and the "effective date" shall be the latest of the dates set forth below.

12. Each party hereto represents and agrees that he/she or it has carefully read and fully understands all of the provisions of the Agreement, and that he/she or it is voluntarily, without any duress or undue influence on the part of or on behalf of any party, entering into this Agreement.

13. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. A facsimile transmission of the Agreement shall be deemed to constitute evidence of the Agreement having been executed.

I have read the forgoing Settlement Agreement and I agree to the provisions contained therein and execute it voluntarily and with full understanding of its consequences. I further acknowledge that I have been afforded the opportunity to consult with legal counsel prior to signing this agreement.

Deputy Ara Melkonians, #[redacted]	Date

FOR THE DEPARTMENT:

R. Williams	7/15/04
Ronald Williams, Chief Filed Operations, Region II	Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY

Helen Schwab, Esq. Green & Shinee	Date
William Balderrama, Esq. Law Offices of William Balderrama	7/15/07 Date



County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

July 22, 2004

Deputy Ara Melkonians, [redacted]

Deputy Melkonians:

On August 18, 2003, you were served with a Letter of Intention, indicating your right to respond to the Sheriff's Department's pending disciplinary action against you, as reported under File Number IAB 2077453.

The discipline was modified pursuant to a settlement agreement which was signed on July 15, 2004. Therefore, you are hereby notified that you have been suspended from the position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department for a period of thirty (30) days. All Departmental records will reflect that you received a thirty (30) day suspension and that it was served from August 28, 2003 through September 26, 2003.

Pursuant to the settlement agreement, the investigation under File Number IAB 2077453, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards; and/or 3-01/030.15, Conduct Toward Others; and/or 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (*specifically as it relates to Manual Section 5-09/030.00, Domestic Violence*), on or about August 9, 2002, you responded to a domestic violence call and pointed an M-26 taser (which looks similar to a pistol and displays a red laser aiming point) at the suspect and then engaged him in a conversation. The suspect had left the scene prior to your arrival and there was evidence of an attempted burglary and the victim stated she was afraid for her safety. While you were still at the location, the suspect (Pilgrim) returned to the parking area below the

balcony. You did not complete a written report documenting the attempted burglary, nor did you document a non-criminal domestic violence incident report as required by policy.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards; and/or 3-01/030.15, Conduct Toward Others; and/or 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (*specifically as it relates to Manual Section 5-09/250.00, Ride Along Program and/or West Hollywood Station Order #28, Ride Along Observers*), on or about September 12, 2002, while on duty, you had a female ride along observer in your patrol car, without receiving prior approval from the Watch Commander and/or without processing a background check and/or the required waivers and/or indemnity agreement. After being requested to "immediately" respond to the station to complete these civil requirements, you arrived nearly three hours later and/or referred to your supervisor as being, "petty" about requiring prior approval.

3. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards; and/or 3-01/050.05, Performance of Duty; and/or 3-01/100.35, False Information in Records, on or about November 14, 2002, you were thought to be at the scene of a call for service and were needed by Lieutenant Pattullo to return to the station to complete an administrative task, but after numerous attempts to contact you were met with negative results, a deputy was dispatched to check the area for you. Although the computer indicated you were at the scene of a call for service, it was discovered that you were actually in a local restaurant having breakfast. When questioned why you did not respond to the voice commands on your portable radio, you stated that your radio was low. As a result, it was necessary for another deputy to enter the restaurant to personally ask you to see the Watch Commander.

Lieutenant Pattullo later discovered that you never actually responded to the call for service and apparently called the informant and asked him if it was still necessary for you to respond. You indicated to the informant that you were delayed on another call. The informant reported that he told you the disturbance was now over and that a response was no longer necessary.

Your Deputy Daily Work Sheet (DDWS) erroneously reflected that you arrived at the scene of the disturbance call at 0406 hours and were at the location until 0519 hours. This was not accurate and you never modified your DDWS to correct the inaccurate information, resulting in your DDWS and/or Unit Log reporting inaccurate data.

4. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation, on or about October 11, 2002, you called the Los Angeles Police Department and reported that [redacted] was in danger from her ex-boyfriend, [redacted] and/or that Mr. [redacted] was an ex-con, was heavily tattooed, had assaulted and/or threatened to kill the victim previously and/or was known to be armed; and/or you did not provide the victim's cell phone number; and/or stated you did not have the victim's cell phone number when asked by the LAPD dispatcher.

5. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.05, General Behavior and/or 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards, between August and December of 2002, based upon the totality of the circumstances contained in charges one (1) through four (4) herein, you have demonstrated that your actions and/or behavior, privately and/or officially, have brought discredit upon yourself and/or the Sheriff's Department when you failed to conform with the provisions of the Manual of Policy and Procedures, as evidenced by but not limited to:

    a) failing to document an attempted burglary/domestic violence incident by completing a written report as required by policy and/or additionally pointing the M-26 taser device at a non-threatening suspect, using the device to intimidate in violation of policies governing its use, and/or;

    b) having a female ride along observer in your patrol car, while on duty and/or without obtaining prior approval from the Watch Commander and/or without processing the required "Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage Waiver and/or Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement;" and/or even after being requested to immediately respond to the station to complete these civil requirements, arriving nearly three hours later and/or referring to your supervisors as being "petty" about requiring prior approval, and/or;

c) documenting on your MDT computer terminal that you were at the scene of a disturbance call, while you were actually at a nearby restaurant having breakfast. The records documented by the completion of the Deputy Daily Worksheet and/or Unit log are official Department records and are subject to subpoena by court officers, and/or;

d) calling the Los Angeles Police Department and reporting that [redacted] was in danger from her ex-boyfriend, [redacted] and/or Mr. [redacted] was an ex-con, was heavily tattooed, had assaulted and/or threatened to kill the victim previously and/or was known to be armed; and/or not providing the victim's cell phone number; and/or stating you did not have the victim's cell phone number when asked by the LAPD dispatcher. These actions resulted in multiple LAPD units responding [redacted] and in [redacted] and [redacted] being stopped, detained and extracted from their vehicle at gunpoint prior to being handcuffed by the LAPD officers.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

Eric B. Smith, Captain
Internal Affairs Bureau

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures.